

Pascagoula Public Library
Genealogy & Local History Dept.
Wilkes Family

WILKES

122

Thomas b. ca. 1735, s/o Francis & Grace Wilkes of Edgecombe Co., NC; to Chester Co., SC by 1774.
m. Mary, d/o Richard Congers

- | | | | | |
|---|---|--|--------------------------------------|---|
| 1. Reuben b. 1763 NC
n. Sarah Thomas | 2. Abner b. 1766 NC
m. Martha Crider
m. Jerusha Brown | 3. Francis b. 1768 NC
m. Miss Roden
m. Mary Thomas | 4. Richard b. 1769
m. Alice Roden | 5. William b. 1775 SC (Wm.'s 12 children listed in book, but only 6 charted.)
m. Lydia Clark
(r/o Chester/SC) |
|---|---|--|--------------------------------------|---|

Reuben Wilkes b. 1763 Halifax Co., NC; SC RS.
m. Sarah, d/o Daniel & Catherine Thomas

- | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|---|
| 1. Mary b. 1790
n. William Carter
(to Harris/GA) | 2. Catherine
(did not marry) | 3. Winifred b. 1795
m. Blake A. Carter
(to Harris/GA) |
| 4. Ellis T. b. 1800
(did not marry) | 5. Anna b. 1802 SC
(d.n.m./d. GA) | (Reuben-a member of
Starnes Creek Bap.Ch.) |

Francis Wilkes b. 1768 NC, to SC, d. 1834 Greene Co., AL
m. d/o John Roden, Sr.

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. John Wesley b. 1792 SC
m. Rebecca
(to Greene/AL & Choctaw/MS) | (poss. 2 other unknown
ch.-son & daughter) |
| m. 2nd Mary, d/o Capt. Anderson & Susannah Thomas of SC | |
| 2. Mary T. b. 1818 SC
m. James Greer, Jr.
(r/o Greene/AL) | 3. Martha b. 1821 SC
m. Dr. Robert F. Stuart
(r/o Greene/AL) |

Abner Wilkes b. 1766 prob. Halifax/NC; to 1819 Marion/Cop, MS
m. Martha Crider/Crowder

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| 1. Elizabeth b. 1790
n. John Cranford
(NC-SC-d. Walker/AL) | 2. Nancy
m. Samuel Barclay
(to Morgan/AL) | 3. Sarah
m. William Nunn
(to Morgan/AL) |
| 4. Stephen H. b. 1794
n. Mary McNeese
(r/o Marion & Cov/MS) | 5. Asa b. 1798 SC
m. Hester Barclay
(r/o Fayette/AL) | 6. Martha b. 1802 SC
m. Zachariah Medford
(to Morgan/AL) |
| 7. Winifred +1785 SC (Samuel s/o Robert Barclay Ire. to SC; RS)
n. Josiah Cranford
(r/o Chester/SC) | | |
| m. 2nd Jerusha Brown of Fairfield/SC | | |
| 8. Elizabeth b. 1804
n. Elijah Crider
(r/o Copiah/MS) | 9. Sarah
m. Samuel Gilbert
(to LA?) | 10. Nancy Eliza
m. Pollard Mullins
(r/o Copiah/MS) |
| 11. John B. b. 1819 MS (Pollard s/o James & Temperance
n. Oney Rebecca Pritchard (Seale) Mullins. James s/o
to Claiborne/LA-d. MS) NC RS Clement Mullins of GA to MS) | | |

Richard Wilkes b. 1769; d. 1840 Chester Co., SC; Baptist
m. Alice, d/o Thomas & Mary Roden

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| 1. Mary b. 1795
m. John P. Roden
(to Talladega/AL) | 2. Thomas b. 1796
m. Ora Anna Hopkins
(r/o Chester/SC) | 3. Martha b. 1798
m. Joseph Carter
(r/o Chester/SC) |
| 4. Lydia b. 1802
m. Isaac Roden
(to Talladega/AL) | 5. Nancy b. 1805
m. Wm. McClintock
(to Randolph/AL) | 6. John Wesley b. 1809
m. Cynthia Cornwell
(r/o Chester/SC) |
| 7. Regina b. 1811 (Joseph Carter's sons, Levi & Richard,
m. John O. Balfour migrated to Winston Co., MS)
(to Talladega/AL) | | |

Richard Congers b. by 1720 Bermuda?, to Isle of Wight/VA & NC
m. Margaret Arundel

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Ephriam b. 1756 | 2. Joel | 3. William |
| 4. Dempsey
(died unmarried) | 5. Amy
m. Thomas Cook | 6. Mary
m. Thomas Wilkes |

William Wilkes b. ca. 1775 SC; r/o Chester Co., SC
(12 children)
m. Lydia Clark

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|---|
| 1. Abner b. 1801
n. Eliz. Cornwell | 2. Ann b. 1803
m. Henry McCollum | 3. Mary b. 1805 (to AR)
m. Ferd. O. Scaife |
| 4. Sarah b. 1807
n. Littleton Land | 5. Relsey b. ca 1810
m. Sylvanus Carter | 6. Eliz. b. 1810 (to MS)
m. Charner Estes |

Ref: Wilkes Family History & Genealogy/Thomas Wilkes & Desc.
by: Ivan Ernest Bass 1965
Located in Sutro Library, San Francisco
(Note: see Wilkes file for more data on Abner Wilkes family)

PART III

ABNER WILKES

ABNER WILKES, son of Thomas and Mary (Conyers) Wilkes, was born about 1766¹. He was born in North Carolina, the exact location is not of record. His parents were married about 1762, presumably in Halifax County where Mary Conyers' parents were living from 1756 to 1766-68 according to the statement of Mary's brother Ephriam in his application for a Revolutionary War pension. Abner's brother Richard was born in North Carolina in 1869 and Richard's daughter, Lydia Wilkes Roden, stated that her father was born in North Carolina, this in 1880 U. S. census report. Abner's youngest brother William was born about 1774/5 and three of his children gave in the 1880 U. S. Census report South Carolina as the place of birth of William. The tradition that Abner and his brothers came to Chester County, South Carolina from Virginia appears to be incorrect².

The first official record found of Abner Wilkes is that of a grant of 555 acres of land on the waters of Long Branch, a branch

1. Based on census records and family tradition
2. Newspaper article in CHESTER REPORTER of 6 August 1929; also notes of Mrs. David L. Hamilton, Sr., Chester, South Carolina

Pascagoula Public Library
Genealogy & Local History Dept.
Wilkes Family

50 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

of Sandy River, from William Moultrie, Governor of South Carolina, dated 1 January 1787³. This land is situated in Chester County, South Carolina, and the plat of survey bears the date of 9 September 1786⁴, at which time Abner had only recently married.

The records of Chester County show that Abner Wilkes bought and sold many tracts of land in that county. At one time he owned at least 2,000 acres of land. He owned several slaves and operated a saw and grist mill on Brushy Fork of Sandy River. He did considerable farming and was licensed to operate an inn. He was rated among the wealthy citizens of his community in Chester County, and was among those who petitioned the Legislature in 1796 in protest of the unequal representation in the State government.

Mr. Wilkes began selling his land holdings in 1798 and had disposed of most of his land before 1806, when he left his family and Chester County for parts unknown. The next record found of him is the report of an undelivered letter awaiting his call at Fort St. Stephens, Alabama on 31 December 1818 and again on 9 January 1819. Fort St. Stephens at that time was the seat of government of the Territory of Alabama and was a trading post established by the U. S. Government for trading with the Choctaw Indians. It is located on the west bank of the Tombigbee River in what is now Washington County, Alabama. It is concluded that Mr. Wilkes was expecting to pass through Fort St. Stephens during the winter of 1818-1819 and he apparently did just that, as family records and tradition have it that his son, John B. Wilkes, was born in Marion County, Mississippi on 8 March 1819. The 1820 census of Mississippi does not list Abner Wilkes. He may not have been established in Marion County when that census was taken, also there is a strong possibility that he was not contacted by the census enumerator, as has been found to have been the case in numerous instances of the early Federal censuses.

The first official Mississippi record of Abner Wilkes that the author has found is that of his patent to the West Half of the Southeast Quarter (W 1/2 SE 1/4) of Section 21, Township 9 North, Range 6 East - 80.41 acres - under the date of 26 February 1824. Later he obtained by patent an adjoining forty acres. This land record is on file in Copiah County, which County was formed from Hinds County on 21 January 1823 from territory obtained from the Choctaw Indians in the New Purchase, dated 18 October 1820.

3. Records of Secretary of State, South Carolina — Vol. 15, page 176

4. Ibid., page 143

ABNER WILKES

51

Copiah is Choctaw for "Calling Panther."

Although a comparatively wealthy man back in South Carolina, Abner Wilkes died a poor man on his farm in Copiah County near the present Bowerton, Mississippi. His death occurred in December, 1839 and his son, John B. Wilkes, was appointed on 18 December 1839 to administer the estate⁵. The proceeds from the sale of the property was not sufficient to pay all the debts; consequently the record of the settlement does not disclose the names of any heirs.

Abner Wilkes married Martha Crider (Crowder) about 1784-6. The given name of his wife appears in documents on file in Chester County, South Carolina; her surname has been furnished by Mrs. Emily Roberta (Wilkes) Leigh and Mrs. Jessie Caroline (Wilkes) Moore, both of whom recall clearly their father (a grandson of Abner Wilkes) stating that the first wife of Abner Wilkes was a Crider or Crowder. John Crider, who was living in Jefferson County, Mississippi, near where Abner Wilkes lived, before the latter settled there, may have been a brother of Martha Crider Wilkes and may have influenced Abner Wilkes to settle in Copiah County. The following are known to have been children of Abner and Martha (Crider) Wilkes:

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------------------|
| I. Elizabeth Wilkes | II. Nancy Wilkes |
| III. Sarah Wilkes | IV. Stephen Hitchcock Wilkes |
| V. Asa Wilkes | VI. Martha Wilkes |

In addition to the above it is well established that there was another daughter, who married Josiah Cranford. Not having been able to establish the given name of this daughter, the Josiah Cranford-Wilkes family is necessarily omitted from this volume. It is family tradition that a third daughter not listed above married another Cranford brother, probably named Elias, but this has not been proved. The 1790 U. S. Census of Chester County shows two males under 16 years of age in the household of Abner Wilkes, but these are not listed in the census of 1800, leading one to conclude that they may not have been children of Abner Wilkes, or that these two children had died before the 1800 census was taken.

Abner Wilkes married, second, Jerusha Brown of Fairfield County, South Carolina, with whom he was apparently infatuated before he left Chester County. The following are known to have been born to them:

- | | |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| VII. Elizabeth Wilkes | VIII. Sarah Wilkes |
| IX. Nancy Eliza Wilkes | X. John B. Wilkes |

5. Copiah County Book K, pages 149-150

52 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

In addition to the above, there was probably another son, but his name and history has not been obtained. The 1830 census of Copiah County, Mississippi, lists 2 males 10 to 15 years of age in the family of Abner Wilkes; one of these was John B. Wilkes, the Administrator of the estate of Abner Wilkes, but the name and history of the other one remains a mystery. Further proof that Abner and Jerusha (Brown) Wilkes had two sons is contained in the census of Copiah County for 1840 in which there are two males between 20 and 30 years of age in the household of John B. Wilkes, who took over the management of the estate of Abner Wilkes after the latter's death in 1839. John B. Wilkes must have been the older of these two brothers, as he was appointed to administer the estate.

The similarity of given names of the daughters of Abner Wilkes by his two wives caused the author to question the fact. An effort was made to prove that Abner Wilkes was not the father of the second three girls listed above, but this was futile, as everything found in the way of evidence only went to prove that Abner and Jerusha (Brown) Wilkes were in fact the parents of these girls. Family recollections and traditions from too many sources to mention here, places of residence, the passing along of the names Abner and Jerusha to later generations, and census data were so overwhelming that no other conclusion was possible.

CHAPTER I

ELIZABETH WILKES NANCY WILKES
SARAH WILKES

1. ELIZABETH WILKES

ELIZABETH WILKES, daughter of Abner and Martha Crider (Crowder) Wilkes, was born in Chester County, South Carolina, about 1790⁶. She died in Walker County, Alabama on 12 March 1868. Elizabeth Wilkes married John Cranford in Chester County, South Carolina, about 1808. No record of their marriage has been found by the author and there is some doubt as to the exact date of this marriage. The 1850 U. S. census of Walker County, Alabama lists Abner Cranford, the first child of John and Elizabeth (Wilkes) Cranford as head of family, 47 years of age, and born in North Carolina. The 1860 U. S. census of Walker County gives Abner Cranford's age as 50 years. The U. S. census of Montgomery County, North Carolina, for the year 1810, where John Cranford is believed to have lived immediately after his marriage and before moving to Chester County, South Carolina, lists John Cranford as

6. Date of birth obtained from 1860 U. S. Census of Walker County, Alabama

ABNER WILKES

53

head of family consisting of one male under 10 years of age, one male 26-45 years of age, and one female 16-26 years of age. Of their 14 children, Abner was the oldest and the next child was born in 1811. Consequently it is apparent that there is an error in the age given for Abner Cranford in the 1850 census. This error in the age of Abner Cranford in the 1850 census seems to have been accepted by many who did not check to see if the age stated was correct⁷.

John Cranford, the husband of Elizabeth Wilkes, was born in North Carolina in 1785⁸. He is said to have had a middle name of Calvin, but the author has found no corroboration of this. He died on his farm in Walker County, Alabama on 12 February 1868, and was buried beside his wife in the old Cranford graveyard at the foot of Cranford Hill, about one mile north of New Hope Church in Walker County. Mr. Cranford was a veteran of the War of 1812, and was at the Battle of New Orleans according to family legend. He enlisted as a private in Colonel Mean's First Regiment of South Carolina Militia on 14 October 1814 and was discharged at Charleston, South Carolina, on 7 March 1815. John Cranford's brother, Josiah, was also in the same regiment and had the same service as John. It is interesting to note that their pay was eight dollars per month, and that they were allowed two rations, valued at 18 cents each, while travelling from Charleston to their homes⁹.

After Elizabeth Wilkes and John Cranford were married, they lived in North Carolina a short time and then moved to Chester County, South Carolina. They lived in the Baton Rouge section of Chester County until about 1822, when they moved to Morgan County, Alabama. They settled and farmed near Falkville until about 1838, when they moved to Walker County, Alabama where they lived and farmed the remainder of their lives. The following children were born of this marriage:

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| A. Abner Cranford | B. Winifred Cranford |
| C. Celia Cranford | D. Mary Cranford |
| E. Patricia Cranford | F. William Cranford |
| G. Charlotte Cranford | H. Thomas Cranford |
| I. Minerva Cranford | J. John M. Cranford |
| K. Malinda Cranford | L. Nancy Emily Cranford |
| M. Lydia M. Cranford | N. Chesley Hardy Cranford |

A. ABNER CRANFORD

ABNER CRANFORD, son of John and Elizabeth (Wilkes)

7. Among those was John M. Dombhart in his "History of Walker County."
8. U. S. Census of Walker County, Alabama, in 1860
9. Records of National Archives, Washington, D. C.

Pascagoula Public Library
Genealogy & Local History Dept.
Wilkes Family

54 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

Cranford, was born in North Carolina about 1809-10¹⁰. He moved to Walker County, Alabama with his parents about 1822, coming from Chester County, South Carolina, where the family had been living a few years. Abner Cranford and his first wife lived in the Pea Ridge community of Fayette County, Alabama a few years after their marriage and later moved to Walker County, Alabama, where they lived and farmed near what is now Carbon Hill. He entered government land in Section 6, Township 14, Range 9 on 9 April 1838. Abner Cranford died on 22 February 1888¹¹ at the home of his daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Thomas Atkins, and was buried at the McDade Cemetery near Pocahtontas, Alabama.

Abner Cranford married Elizabeth Johnson in Morgan County, Alabama on 26 January 1831¹². According to the best information available, they had the following children born to them:

1. Mason Cranford
2. William Cranford
3. Martha Cranford

Abner Cranford married, second, Rebecca Ann Wedgeworth Conner, the daughter of Richard and Mary Wedgeworth and widow of Caswell Conner. They had the following issue:

4. Julia Ann Cranford, born 28 December 1836
5. John Edward Cranford, born 12 February 1839
6. Nancy Emily Cranford, born 4 February 1841
7. Elizabeth P. Cranford, born 29 January 1843
8. Sara Ann Matilda Cranford, born 27 May 1847
9. Newton Middleton Cranford, born 17 February 1853

4. JULIA ANN CRANFORD

JULIA ANN CRANFORD, daughter of Abner and Rebecca Ann (Wedgeworth Conner) Cranford, was born in Alabama on 28 December 1836 and died in Walker County, Alabama on 2 March 1929. She married John M. Cunningham (21 June 1838 - 12 February 1898), and they resided in Walker County, Alabama, where Mr. Cunningham engaged in farming. The following children were born to them:

- a. Mary Susan Cunningham, born 5 March 1859
- b. Nancy Elizabeth Cunningham, born 23 April 1860
- c. George Washington Cunningham, born 29 January 1862
- d. Abner M. Cunningham, born 13 September 1863
- e. John F. Cunningham, born 13 September 1863
- f. Rebecca Ann Cunningham, born 26 April 1865

10. U. S. Census of Walker County, Alabama in 1860

11. John M. Cunningham - Julia Ann Cranford Bible

12. Morgan County, Alabama Marriage Records, A-183

ABNER WILKES

55

- g. Belle Cunningham, born 5 January 1867
- h. Ruthie B. Cunningham, born 23 April 1868
- i. S. Bird Cunningham, born 1 July 1869
- j. James C. Cunningham, born 11 February 1871
- k. Lula D. Cunningham, born 26 August 1872
- l. Martha F. Cunningham, born 21 June 1874
- m. Emily G. Cunningham, born 1 July 1876

5. JOHN EDWARD CRANFORD

JOHN EDWARD CRANFORD, son of Abner and Rebecca Ann (Wedgeworth Conner) Cranford, was born near Carbon Hill, Alabama on 12 February 1839, and died on his farm on Route 1, Townley, Alabama on 24 February 1936. Burial was in the McDade Cemetery near Pocahtontas, Walker County, Alabama. Mr. Cranford was a Confederate Veteran. He enlisted at Jasper, Alabama in September 1862 and served at first as a private in Company A of the 13th Alabama Cavalry. He was discharged following an attack of typhoid fever before his company went to the front. He again enlisted about 1 August 1863 at Jasper, and was assigned as a private in Company B of the 10th Alabama Cavalry, where he continued in service until the end of the war¹³. His grave marker at the McDade Cemetery gives his regiment as the 10th Alabama Infantry, which is believed to be incorrect.

John Edward Cranford married, first, a Mathis and they had the following issue:

- a. Burtis Richard Cranford
- b. Augustine Cranford

John Edward Cranford married, second, Uretha Morris and they had the following issue:

- c. Sherman Cranford

John Edward Cranford married, third, Jane Hockett and they had the following children:

- d. Callie Cranford, born 15 March 1870
- e. Celia Cranford, born 13 September 1874
- f. Cortis Cranford, born 24 June 1875

a. BURTIS RICHARD CRANFORD was born in Walker County, Alabama. He migrated to Talihina, Oklahoma, where he was a farmer. He died and was buried at Talihina. Burtis Cranford married Elizabeth Mitchell and they had the following issue:

- Artie Belle Cranford, born 1 April 1882
- Andrew Jackson Cranford, born in January 1885
- Abner Elia Cranford
- Reuben Lester Cranford, born in January 1899

13. Records of the National Archives, Washington, D. C.

Pascagoula Public Library
Genealogy & Local History Dept.
Wilkes Family

56 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

c. SHERMAN CRANFORD, farmer and miner, was born near Carbon Hill, Alabama on 20 April 1868. He died at Case Valley, Alabama, on 10 February 1942 and was buried at Pleasant Grove Cemetery near Townley, Alabama. Sherman Cranford married Pheba Wood (15 August 1861 - 5 August 1934) in Walker County, Alabama, and they had the following issue:

Uretha Cranford, born 5 September 1892

Edward Thomas Cranford, born 6 January 1896

8. SARA ANN MATILDA CRANFORD

SARA ANN MATILDA CRANFORD, daughter of Abner and Rebecca Ann (Wedgeworth Conner) Cranford, was born near Carbon Hill, Alabama, on 27 May 1847 and died 18 May 1934. Burial was in the McDade Cemetery two miles south of Carbon Hill. She married Lewis Thomas Atkins, a farmer, and they had the following issue:

- a. Electa I. Atkins, born 6 June 1864
- b. Joseph L. Atkins, born 4 January 1874
- c. Ida Atkins, born 13 December 1876
- d. Bert Atkins, born 14 February 1878
- e. Gird Atkins, born 18 April 1885
- f. Oscar Atkins, born 6 August 1887

a. ELECTA I. ATKINS married Richard Morrissey. They lived near Carbon Hill, Alabama, where Mr. Morrissey was a miner. They had the following children born to them:

Alice Morrissey, born in 1889

Nittie Morrissey, born 30 April 1892

James Morrissey, born 18 October 1893

Thomas Morrissey, born 22 September 1895

Maggie Morrissey, born 29 February 1898

Electa I. Atkins married, second, Eldridge Edgil in 1903 and they had the following issue:

Dolphis Edgil, born in 1905

Floyd Edgil, born 29 September 1906

Etta Edgil, born 29 July 1909

b. JOSEPH L. ATKINS was a miner and resided near Carbon Hill, Alabama before his death on 1 July 1961. He married Mary Sandlin and they had the following children born to them:

Lonnie J. Atkins, born 12 January 1899

Elbert Atkins, born 16 May 1901

Fred L. Atkins, born 11 July 1904

Robert C. Atkins, born 11 September 1906

Howard D. Atkins, born 18 March 1909

ABNER WILKES

57

Coleman D. Atkins, born 28 July 1911

Cooper R. Atkins, born 23 October 1913

Kelly C. Atkins, born 22 November 1916

c. IDA ATKINS was born on 13 December 1876 and died on 3 August 1957. Burial was at the McDade Cemetery near Carbon Hill, Alabama. She married Robert Frome, miner, who lived for many years at Carbon Hill, but presently he is living in Birmingham, Alabama. They had the following children born to them, all at Carbon Hill:

James Frome, born 26 August 1892, died 29 September 1893

James Frome, born 11 February 1894

Thomas Frome, born 22 February 1896; died 9 October 1896

Annie Frome, born 7 September 1899

John Frome, born 19 January 1902

Elizabeth Frome, born 20 April 1904

Thomas Frome, born 4 June 1906

Robert Frome, born 9 June 1908

Joe Frome, born 16 March 1910

William Frome, born 3 March 1912

Jean Frome, born 7 May 1914

Isabel Frome, born 13 March 1917

Mary Frome, born 3 January 1921

d. BERT ATKINS was born on 14 February 1878. He married Etta Hammock in Arkansas in 1903, and they reside at Parrish, Alabama. They have the following children:

Agnes Atkins, born 18 March 1904

Edgar Atkins, born 27 July 1906

Henry Atkins, born 23 August 1909

B. Atkins, born 10 May 1912

D. Atkins, born 23 November 1913

Kathene Atkins, born 17 July 1919

Christene Atkins, born 18 August 1924

Eloise Atkins, born 30 May 1926

e. GIRD ATKINS was born on 18 April 1885. He resides on Route 1, Carbon Hill, Alabama, where he is a miner. He married Ella Swindle at Carbon Hill on 18 August 1907, and they had the following issue:

Frank Atkins, born 22 July 1908; died 21 June 1909

Lewis A. Atkins, born and died in 1910

Mose Atkins, born 12 November 1911

Gertrude Mae Atkins, born 12 September 1914

Bessie Atkins, born 26 January 1917

Gird Atkins' first wife died on 9 December 1918. He married,

Pascagoula Public Library
Genealogy & Local History Dept.
Wilkes Family

58 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

second, Leta Pike, daughter of William Pike, at Carbon Hill on 4 April 1920 and they have the following issue:

Emily Irene Atkins, born 27 July 1926

f. OSCAR ATKINS was born on 6 August 1887. He lived near Carbon Hill, Alabama, where he was a miner. He died on 18 December 1946 and was buried at McDade Cemetery near Carbon Hill. He married Delma Tidwell at Carbon Hill, Alabama on 26 March 1911 and they had the following issue:

Aclia Edith Atkins, born 7 May 1912

Louis Donald Atkins, born 15 September 1913

Oscar Atkins, Jr., born 29 March 1923

Bobby Ray Atkins, born 15 January 1931

Joe Newton Atkins, born 21 September 1937

9. NEWTON MIDDLETON CRANFORD

NEWTON MIDDLETON CRANFORD, son of Abner and Rebecca Ann (Wedgeworth Conner) Cranford, was born in Walker County, Alabama in 1853 (date from 1880 Census of U. S.). He was a farmer of Walker County. His wife is listed in the Census Report as Eliza J., age 30. Their children were as follows:

Newton J. Cranford

Mary A. Cranford

Nora G. Cranford

Rufus M. Cranford

John D. Cranford

The foregoing family were living in 1880 with the parents of Newton Middleton Cranford, listed as follows:

Abner Cranford, farmer, age 73, born N. C., parents born N. C.

Rebecca A. Cranford, age 67, born S. C., parents born S. C.

B. WINIFRED CRANFORD

WINIFRED CRANFORD, daughter of John and Elizabeth (Wilkes) Cranford, was born in Chester County, South Carolina on 12 February 1811. She married David Speagle (Speigle) in Morgan County, Alabama on 8 October 1830¹⁴. They lived near Bremen, Cullman County, Alabama and engaged in farming. Her father-in-law, Daniel Speagle, came from Lincoln County, North Carolina to Bushy Creek, now in the western part of Cullman County, Alabama, in 1816. Winifred was the mother of 19 children and was a regular "angel of mercy," granny woman, practical nurse, and so forth. In going from her father's home in the western part of Morgan County to her husband's home in Cullman County, "back and to" on visits, she blazed a trail through the woods that has since been known as the "Speagle Blaze." Their sympathy was with the

14. Morgan County, Alabama Marriage Bond dated 6 October 1830

ABNER WILKES

59

Union in the War Between the States; three of their sons were in the U. S. Army and two of them died of disease while in the service. Four sons were conscripted into the Confederate Army and all four were killed in battle in Mississippi. Winifred died on 23 November 1867 and her husband died on 16 July 1890, both being buried at Bushy Creek Cemetery.

After the death of his first wife, Mr. Speagle married again and fathered seven more children. The following known children were born to Winifred and David Speagle:

John Speagle	Adealy Speagle	Daniel Speagle
Amanda Speagle	David Speagle	Emily Speagle
Carrol Speagle	Mary Speagle	Margaret Speagle
Thomas Speagle	Martha Speagle	Henry Speagle
Derrick Speagle	Elsy Speagle	Aldey Speagle

C. CELIA CRANFORD

CELIA CRANFORD, daughter of John and Elizabeth (Wilkes) Cranford, was born about 1812 in South Carolina. She married Arnold Blevins in Morgan County, Alabama on 29 March 1829¹⁵. It is said that they lived in either Walker or Winston County, Alabama, where Mr. Blevins engaged in farming. They are reported to have had the following children:

Benjamin Blevins

Jack Blevins

D. MARY CRANFORD

MARY (POLLY) CRANFORD, daughter of John and Elizabeth (Wilkes) Cranford, was born in South Carolina about 1813. She married William Stringer, son of Edward and Nancy (Welch) Stringer, in Morgan County, Alabama on 24 November 1832¹⁵. William Stringer was born in Kentucky in 1810 or 1811, and was a minister of the gospel and baptized his father-in-law, John Cranford, while on a visit to Walker County, Alabama, where the Cranford family lived after 1838. William Stringer had a brother, Levi Stringer, who married Martha Frances Nunn, daughter of William and Sarah (Wilkes) Nunn. Elizabeth and Sarah Wilkes were daughters of Abner Wilkes. William and Polly Stringer are buried at Lawrence Cove Cemetery about two miles east of Eva, Morgan County, Alabama. The following children were born to William and Mary (Cranford) Stringer:

1. Elias Burl Stringer
2. Nancy Frances Stringer
3. Susanna Elizabeth Stringer
4. William Morton Stringer
5. Martha E. Angelina Stringer

15. Morgan County, Alabama, Marriage Bonds

1. ELIAS BURL STRINGER

ELIAS BURL STRINGER, son of William and Mary (Cranford) Stringer, was born in Morgan County, Alabama on 10 January 1835. He married Frances N. Allison in Morgan County on 24 December 1851¹⁶. He died on 6 June 1865 and was buried at Lawrence Cove Cemetery. One child was born of this union:

Nancy Jane Stringer

2. NANCY FRANCES STRINGER

NANCY FRANCES STRINGER, daughter of William and Mary (Cranford) Stringer, was born in Morgan County, Alabama, on 22 November 1837. She married Charles E. Oden in Morgan County on 30 September 1857¹⁷. The 1860 census lists the following children:

Albert C. Oden

Nancy A. E. Oden

3. SUSANNA ELIZABETH STRINGER

SUSANNA ELIZABETH STRINGER, daughter of William and Mary (Cranford) Stringer, was born in Morgan County, Alabama on 3 August 1841. She married William Mathew Self on 28 December 1856. She died on 31 March 1900. The following children were born of the marriage:

Mary Frances Self	Nancy Jane Self
Willie Ann Tabitha Self	William M. Campbell Self
John Edward Self, M.D.	James J. Self
Nettie Britton Self	Fannie H. Self
Neaner Holden Self	Alice Self

E. PATRICIA CRANFORD

PATRICIA CRANFORD, daughter of John and Elizabeth (Wilkes) Cranford, was born about 1815. She married O. P. Speagle (Speigle) in Morgan County, Alabama on 11 May 1831¹⁸. They lived near Hartselle, Alabama, where Mr. Speagle engaged in farming. The following children were born of this union:

David Speagle	Thomas Speagle
Jack Speagle	Henry Speagle
Haywood Speagle	Tilda Speagle

16. Morgan County, Alabama Marriage Bond Book B, p. 118
17. Morgan County, Alabama Marriage Bond Book B, p. 352
18. Morgan County, Alabama Marriage Bond Book

F. WILLIAM CRANFORD

WILLIAM CRANFORD, son of John and Elizabeth (Wilkes) Cranford, was born in Chester County, South Carolina on 18 February 1818. He died at his plantation home near Seminary, Mississippi on 11 August 1885 and was buried at the nearby Eminence Cemetery. Mr. Cranford was a private in Captain B. A. Philpot's Company of the Fourth Alabama Mounted Volunteers from 19 June 1836 to 19 July of the same year, when he was mustered out of the service from the Creek Indian War in Florida. In his record of service found at the National Archives, he is described as 5 feet 10 inches in height, with dark eyes, light hair, dark complexion, and a farmer¹⁹.

William Cranford lived in Alabama a few years after his marriage, and about 1849 moved to Mississippi, where he appears in the 1850 census of Covington County. He wrote his brother, Chesley Hardy Cranford, of Walker County, Alabama on 13 June 1869 as follows: that he was living in Perry County on Leaf River at the fork of Bouie and Leaf; that he was operating a ferry on Leaf River; that he had been living there but two years; that he lived in Jones County from the beginning of the war until he moved to this place; that he was sheriff of Jones County until he voluntarily relinquished the office; that his address is Monroe, Perry County, Mississippi²⁰. Monroe was about 7 miles north of the present Hattiesburg, and 4 miles southwest of Eastabuchie, on the New Orleans & Northeastern Railroad.

Mr. Cranford taught school in Alabama as a young man, and later in Mississippi. He was a member of Hebron Lodge #200 of the Free and Accepted Masons. He joined the Methodist Church late in life and was an enthusiastic worker of Eminence Church, located near Seminary, Mississippi. He owned considerable land in Covington County, where he was living at the time of his death.

William Cranford married Leaner Louise Jones, daughter of William Wallace and Celia (Files) Jones, and they had the following issue:

1. Carlin Armstrong Cranford
2. Celia Cranford
3. Elizabeth Cranford, died as a child

William Cranford's second wife was Mrs. Sidey Emeline (Tubb) Patton of Walker County, Alabama, whose husband left her with the following children: George W. Patton, Nancy M. Patton, and Daniel A. Patton. The following children were born to

19. Pension Records, National Archives, Washington, D. C.
20. Ibid; and records of U. S. Post Office Department

Pascagoula Public Library
Genealogy & Local History Dept.
Wilkes Family

62 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

Mr. Cranford and his second wife:

- | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 4. William Madison Cranford | 5. Tandy Walker Cranford |
| 6. Thomas Peter Cranford | 7. Mary Cranford |
| 8. Jeremiah Leggett Cranford | 9. Emily Cranford |
| 10. Charles Edwin Cranford | |

1. CARLIN ARMSTRONG CRANFORD

CARLIN ARMSTRONG CRANFORD, son of William and Leaner Louise (Jones) Cranford, was born in Walker County, Alabama. He died on 8 August 1919 and was buried at Essary Springs, Tennessee. He was a farmer and lived in Walker County, Alabama until 1882, when he moved to Prentiss County, Mississippi and lived near Booneville. In December 1901 he sold his farm in Prentiss County and moved to Alcorn County, Mississippi, where he bought a farm about 20 miles west of Corinth and near the Tennessee border. The family received mail in Tennessee and went to church in that state.

Carlin Armstrong Cranford and Rebekah Anne Gray were married at Jasper, Alabama in December 1870 and they had the following issue:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| a. William Henry Cranford | b. Joel Abner Cranford |
| c. Benjamin Franklin Cranford | d. Dolly Frances Cranford |
| e. James Carlin Cranford | f. Chesley Hardie Cranford |
| g. Lou Aquilla Cranford | h. Bamah Modena Cranford |
| i. Dolphus Bertram Cranford | j. Claudia Belle Cranford |

a. WILLIAM HENRY CRANFORD, son of Carlin Armstrong and Rebekah Anne (Gray) Cranford, was born in Walker County, Alabama on 13 August 1871. He lived at Winona, Mississippi and engaged in railroad work. He married, first, Nonie Wooten and they had the following children born to them:

Clyde Cranford Modena Cranford

William Henry Cranford married, second, Viola Essary and they had the following issue:

Eva Lytal Cranford Joe Cranford

b. JOEL ABNER CRANFORD, son of Carlin Armstrong and Rebekah Anne (Gray) Cranford, was born in Walker County, Alabama on 23 September 1874. He lived and farmed in Alcorn County, Mississippi. He married Annie Putt and they had the following children:

Arlin Cranford Vada Mae Cranford
Ira Clifford Cranford Johnnie Phillip Cranford

c. BENJAMIN FRANKLIN CRANFORD, son of Carlin Arm-

ABNER WILKES

63

strong and Rebekah Anne (Gray) Cranford, was born in Walker County, Alabama on 26 September 1876. He lived at Dumas, Mississippi, where he engaged in farming. He married Hallie Earl Hollis and they had the following children:

Cecil Clay Cranford Paul Cranford
Manning Cranford Williard Cranford

Lela Mae Cranford

d. DOLLY FRANCES CRANFORD, daughter of Carlin Armstrong and Rebekah Anne (Gray) Cranford, was born in Walker County, Alabama on 25 November 1878. She married Joseph Robertson and they lived at Ramer, Tennessee, where they farmed. They had the following issue:

Leigh Ollyn Robertson

e. JAMES CARLIN CRANFORD, son of Carlin Armstrong and Rebekah Anne (Gray) Cranford, was born in Walker County, Alabama on 13 January 1880. He lives at Essary Springs, Tennessee, where he is a retired farmer. He married Della Dunn and they had the following children born to them:

Azile Cranford Arville Cranford
McKernis Cranford Buell Cranford

f. CHESLEY HARDIE CRANFORD, son of Carlin Armstrong and Rebekah Anne (Gray) Cranford, was born in Walker County, Alabama on 9 September 1883. He lived at Bremen, Alabama, where he was a minister of the Church of Christ. He died on 4 April 1957 and was buried at Persimmon Cemetery. He married Stella Galimore and they had the following issue:

Vannie Rae Cranford Beulah Cranford
Mabel Cranford

g. LOU AQUILLA CRANFORD, daughter of Carlin Armstrong and Rebekah Anne (Gray) Cranford, was born in Prentiss County, Mississippi on 23 February 1886. She married William Price Russell and they resided at Greenville, Mississippi where Mr. Russell engaged in carpentry. They had the following children:

William Glen Russell Mildred Evalyn Russell
Jack Lambert Russell Edna Elaine Russell

h. BAMAH MODENA CRANFORD, daughter of Carlin Armstrong and Rebekah Anne (Gray) Cranford, was born in Prentiss County, Mississippi, on 16 January 1891. She married Eddie Lee White and they live at Tuscumbia, Alabama where Mr. White is engaged in carpentry. They have the following children:

Edwin Larry White Lyle Dupree White
Horace Gene White Gloria Joy White

Pascagoula Public Library
Genealogy & Local History Dept.
Wilkes Family

64 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

i. DOLPHUS BERTRAM CRANFORD, son of Carlin Armstrong and Rebekah Anne (Gray) Cranford, was born in Prentiss County, Mississippi on 5 January 1893. He lived at Pocahontas, Tennessee, where he engaged in farming. He married, first, Janie Duncan and they had the following issue:

James Falconer Cranford

Dolphus Bertram Cranford married, second, Lillie Fuller. They live at Cullman, Alabama and have no issue.

j. CLAUDIA BELLE CRANFORD, daughter of Carlin Armstrong and Rebekah Anne (Gray) Cranford, was born in Prentiss County, Mississippi on 3 January 1896. She first married Joseph Higgs, who died in 1934, and they had the following issue:

Robert Edward Higgs

She married, second, Arnold J. Shea, who died 22 May 1956. She resides at 1302 24th Street, Sheffield, Alabama. Mr. Shea was an employee of TVA. They had no issue.

2. CELIA CRANFORD

CELIA CRANFORD, daughter of William and Leaner Louise (Jones) Cranford, was born in Walker County, Alabama. She married Columbus Posey in Walker County, and they resided at Marietta, Prentiss County, Mississippi, where Mr. Posey engaged in farming. The following children were born to them:

William Posey	Henry Posey
George Posey	Jefferson Posey
James Robert Posey	Sarah Posey
Lou Posey	Tamie Posey
Laura Posey	Ellie Posey

4. WILLIAM MADISON CRANFORD

WILLIAM MADISON CRANFORD, son of William and Sidey E. (Tubb-Patton) Cranford, was born in Walker County, Alabama and moved to Mississippi with his parents. After his marriage he lived in Jones County, Mississippi and for many years operated the Cranford ferry on Leaf River. Later he lived in Ellisville, Mississippi and is said to have been a herdsman until his death on 30 November 1907. Burial was in the Ellisville Cemetery. He married Mary Knight in Jones County, Mississippi and they had the following children born to them:

Charles Asa Cranford, born 18 August 1867
Mindy Avarilla Cranford, born 30 July 1868
Penelope Elizabeth Cranford, born 19 August 1870
Daniel Washington Cranford, born 27 April 1873

ABNER WILKES

65

Mike Cranford, born 4 May 1875

Van Omega Cranford, born 2 June 1879

Nellie Frances Cranford, born 25 May 1881

William Madison Cranford married, second, Missouri Tisdale at Ellisville, Mississippi on 27 February 1888 and they had the following issue:

Ida Missouri Cranford, born 25 December 1889

5. TANDY WALKER CRANFORD

TANDY WALKER CRANFORD, son of William and Sidey E. (Tubb-Patton) Cranford, was born in Walker County, Alabama and moved to Mississippi with his parents in 1849. It is presumed that he was named for Tandy Walker, State Senator from Walker County, Alabama. He was a prominent farmer of Covington County, Mississippi, and owned and operated a cotton gin and saw mill near Seminary. He died on his farm on 11 December 1920 and was buried in the Cranford plot of Eminence Methodist Church Cemetery, about six miles east of Seminary. He was a Confederate veteran, having enlisted in the fall of 1861 at Forest, Mississippi. He was a member of Company B, Ferguson's Brigade, Jackson's Division, and his captain was Jim Miller. He was in active service at the final surrender in 1865²¹. It is said that on 25 June 1863 he guided Confederate soldiers to the hiding place of some Federal troop raiders at Rocky Creek, near Ellisville, Mississippi that resulted in the capture of 37 of the raiders and the killing of two raiders. It is stated that this was the last capture in Mississippi of Union troops, and that it was of great importance as it ended the struggle in that part of the state.

Tandy Walker Cranford married Rachel Ann Speed, daughter of W. L. and Martha Speed, in Jones County, Mississippi in December, 1872, and they had the following children born to them:

- | | |
|---|----------------------------|
| a. William Leroy Cranford | b. George Thomas Cranford |
| c. Tandy Walker Cranford, Jr. | d. Roland Houston Cranford |
| e. Wiley Sharp Cranford | |
| f. Marshall Ray Cranford, born 5 July 1883; died 6 Sept. 1887 | |
| g. Jack Eli Cranford | h. Bessie Laura Cranford |
| i. Nancy Matilda Cranford | |

a. WILLIAM LEROY CRANFORD, son of Tandy Walker and Rachel Ann (Speed) Cranford, was born near Seminary, Mississippi on 26 February 1875 and died on 29 August 1935, and was buried at Eminence Cemetery. He was a graduate of Millsaps College, class

21. Mississippi State Archive Records

Pascagoula Public Library
Genealogy & Local History Dept.
Wilkes Family

66 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

of 1900, and became a prominent figure in legal circles of Mississippi. He served one term in the state legislature, and was a Circuit Judge of the 13th Judicial District, consisting of Smith, Covington, Simpson and Jasper counties. At the time of his death he was a legal representative of the Federal Land Bank of New Orleans, and was also the president of the State Bank and Trust Company of Collins, Mississippi. He was a deacon of Seminary Baptist Church and a Shriner. He lived the simple life of a friend and neighbor to all and at the same time succeeded in his legal profession. In his copy of a book of poems by Sam Walter Foss that included "Let me live in a house by the side of the road and be a friend to man," he wrote the following: "And I've lived in this house by the side of the road, and I have been a friend to man."

Judge William Leroy Cranford and Eliza Malissa Ford were married at Hebron, Mississippi on 3 January 1900 and had the following children:

Alden Ford Cranford, born 30 November 1901

Wilhelmina Hope Cranford, b. 16 December 1903; d. 26 June 1905

Christina Grace Cranford, born 3 August 1905

Winnie Louise Cranford, born 4 September 1907

b. GEORGE THOMAS CRANFORD, son of Tandy Walker and Rachel Ann (Speed) Cranford, was born near Seminary, Mississippi, on 15 November 1876 and died at the Methodist Hospital, Hattiesburg, Mississippi on 1 October 1937. Burial was at Eminence Cemetery. His early education was in the public schools of his community, and Millsaps College. He attended the Medical School of the University of Tennessee, from which he obtained the degree of Doctor of Medicine in 1898. Doctor Cranford went immediately from college into the practice of general medicine at Seminary, and rapidly gained a prominent place in civic, fraternal and medical circles of that section of the South. He served as Health Officer of Covington County for 24 years. He was a 32nd degree Mason, and was a Steward of Seminary Methodist Church.

Dr. George Thomas Cranford and Mary Eliza Terrell were married at the home of her parents near Mount Carmel, Mississippi on 28 March 1902 and they had the following issue:

Jasper Douglas Cranford, born 9 October 1905

George Thomas Cranford, Jr., born 5 September 1908

Lex Cranford, born 9 October 1916

c. TANDY WALKER CRANFORD, JR., son of Tandy Walker and Rachel Ann (Speed) Cranford, was born near Seminary; Mississippi on 23 February 1878 and was instantly killed in an auto-

ABNER WILKES

67

mobile collision near Lux, Mississippi on 21 May 1938; burial was in Eminence Cemetery. He attended local public schools and then went to Millsaps College, from which he received his law degree in 1902. He practiced his profession at Seminary and became well-known as a lawyer through his gift in oratory and wit that kept him in constant demand as a public speaker.

Tandy Walker Cranford, Jr. and Flora Garrison were married at Seminary, Mississippi on 17 November 1906 and they had the following issue:

Rachel Alice Cranford, born 20 July 1907; died in infancy

Tandy Walker Cranford, III, born 6 June 1909

d. DR. ROLAND HOUSTON CRANFORD, son of Tandy Walker and Rachel Ann (Speed) Cranford, was born near Seminary, Mississippi on 29 February 1880 and died at Laurel, Mississippi on 21 May 1941. Burial was in Laurel Cemetery. After graduating from Seminary High School he attended Millsaps College and Memphis Medical College, Memphis, Tennessee, from which he graduated in medicine in 1906. He later did post-graduate work at Rochester, Minnesota; New York City; Chicago; and Tulane.

Dr. Cranford began the practice of medicine at Moselle, Mississippi in 1906. In 1908 he went to Laurel, Mississippi as Chief Surgeon and Superintendent of South Mississippi Charity Hospital, where he remained until 1924, when he purchased and took over the management of Laurel General Hospital, becoming Chief Surgeon of that institution. He was a member of the Mississippi State Board of Health from 1916 to 1920. During World War I he was commissioned a captain in the Army Medical Corps, but saw no active military service.

Dr. Cranford was a Knight Templar Mason and attained the 32nd degree in the consistory. He was also a Noble of the Mystic Shrine. He belonged to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Woodmen of the World. Along professional lines, he was a member of the American Hospital Association, American Medical Association, and Mississippi State Medical Association. In religious faith, he was an Episcopalian. He was a member of the Laurel Country Club, and contributed much toward civic development as a member of the Chamber of Commerce.

Dr. Roland Houston Cranford and Lena Miller of Meridian, Mississippi were married at Moselle, Mississippi on 22 June 1913. Her father, C. J. Miller, was born in London, England, and was a chemist, engineer and railroad builder of prominence. The following children were born of this union:

Pascagoula Public Library
Genealogy & Local History Dept.
Wilkes Family

68 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

Roland Houston Cranford, Jr., born 5 September 1914
Mary Ruth Cranford, born 25 November 1916
Elizabeth Matilda Cranford, born 5 September 1920
Thomas Miller Cranford, born 25 March 1927

e. WILEY SHARP CRANFORD, son of Tandy Walker and Rachel Ann (Speed) Cranford, was born near Seminary, Mississippi on 3 December 1881 and died at Ellisville, Mississippi on 22 June 1941. Burial was at Ellisville. He attended local public schools and graduated from Ellisville High School. He then attended University of the South at Sewanee, Tennessee, and later Tulane Medical College, New Orleans, Louisiana. He was licensed to practice medicine in Mississippi in 1907 and began practice of general medicine at Soso, Mississippi that year. He located at Ellisville in 1914, and practiced there for 25 years. He was Jones County Health Officer from 1920 to 1924, and the house physician for Ellisville State School for two years; at the time of his death he was a Trustee of that institution.

Dr. Wiley Sharp Cranford and Eva Trest were married in Jones County, Mississippi on 26 July 1922 and they had the following children born to them:

Eva Louise Cranford, born 28 June 1923
Dorothy Marie Cranford, born 22 February 1926
Marjorie Ann Cranford, born 31 March 1927

g. JACK ELI CRANFORD, son of Tandy Walker and Rachel Ann (Speed) Cranford, was born near Seminary, Mississippi on 4 January 1886 and died at Baptist Hospital, Jackson, Mississippi on 29 March 1949. Burial was at Eminence Cemetery near Seminary, Mississippi. Following his early education in public schools, he attended Mississippi College, Clinton, Mississippi, where he received his Bachelor of Arts degree in 1908. Later he studied at Baptist Seminary, Louisville, Kentucky, and became a minister. Over a period of years he served in 24 churches, among which were: Goodwater Baptist Church in Smith County; Kingston Baptist Church, Laurel; Bailey Avenue Baptist Church, Jackson. He was a member of the Free and Accepted Order of Masons, and also a Noble of the Mystic Shrine.

Reverend Jack Eli Cranford and Bessie McLehany were married at Hazlehurst, Mississippi on 27 June 1911 and they had the following issue:

Jack Judson Cranford, born 14 July 1912
David Tandy Cranford, born 30 July 1914
Paul Houston Cranford, born 5 August 1916

ABNER WILKES

69

Rachel Matilda Cranford, born 23 December 1918

Bessie Lois Cranford, born 28 November 1929

Mrs. Jack Eli Cranford died at Baptist Hospital, Jackson, Mississippi in April 1962 and was buried in the Cranford family plot at Eminence Cemetery.

h. BESSIE LAURA CRANFORD, daughter of Tandy Walker and Rachel Ann (Speed) Cranford, was born near Seminary, Mississippi on 15 July 1888. She attended school at Seminary, and then Hillman College, Clinton, Mississippi, following which she taught in the public schools of Covington County, Mississippi for a short time. She married Dr. Hubert Franklin Robertson of Williamsburg, Mississippi at the home of her parents on 20 October 1907. Dr. Robertson received his medical education at the University of Tennessee and after graduation took up general practice at Clyde, Mississippi. He is a veteran of World War I with two years of Army medical service in Panama. He later practiced his profession at Stillmore, Mississippi, a Pinkbine Lumber Company town, and at Wiggins, Mississippi. At the time of his death on 29 October 1930, Dr. Robertson was Mayor of Wiggins and a practicing physician of that town. The following children were born of this union:

Bessie Laura Robertson, born 1 October 1908
Hubert Cecil Robertson, born 5 September 1911
James Asaph Robertson, born 7 December 1913

i. NANCY MATILDA CRANFORD, daughter of Tandy Walker and Rachel Ann (Speed) Cranford, was born near Seminary, Mississippi on 16 August 1890. She was educated in the local public schools and Normal College, now University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg. She taught in the public schools of Covington and Lamar counties for eight years. She married Adam Byrd Peterson, a native of Carthage, Mississippi at Purvis, Mississippi on 3 March 1917. They lived at Laurel, Mississippi, where Mr. Peterson engaged in soil conservation work until his death on 24 May 1938. Mr. Peterson was a veteran of World War I, having served as a private in the Coast Artillery Corps. No children were born of this union. After the death of Mr. Peterson, the widow married Albert N. Garcia, a retired Army Master Sergeant, and they live at 117 West Pine Avenue, Biloxi, Mississippi. Mr. Garcia had 31 years service as an airplane mechanic, 12 years being overseas service.

6. THOMAS PETER CRANFORD

THOMAS PETER CRANFORD, son of William and Sidey E. (Tubb-Patton) Cranford, was born in Walker County, Alabama and died on 5 June 1915. Burial was in the plantation graveyard.

70 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

He was a planter, and lived about two miles from Eminence Methodist Church, and near the Jones-Covington county line. He was a founder member of Lowery's Baptist Church in Jones County, assisted in building the wooden structure, and was a deacon until his death. He married Mary Maxie at Ellisville, Mississippi in 1867, and the following children were born to them:

Dollie Jane Cranford, born 2 January 1869
Jacob Lee Cranford, born 5 February 1870
John Wilkey Cranford, born 11 November 1871
Dellie Elizabeth Cranford, born 5 September 1873
Alexander James Cranford, born 12 September 1875
Walter Andrew Cranford, born 9 January 1879
George Washington Cranford, born 4 July 1880
William Walker Cranford, born 9 June 1882
Jesse Cranford, born 21 September 1885

7. MARY CRANFORD

MARY CRANFORD, daughter of William and Sidey E. (Tubb-Patton) Cranford, was born in Walker County, Alabama and died on 28 August 1927. Burial was at the cemetery of Leaf River Baptist Church. She married Samuel Wilbur Williamson in Ellisville, Mississippi in January, 1888. They lived near the Leaf River Baptist Church, where Mr. Williamson was a planter. At one time they owned the William Cranford homestead. The following children were born of this marriage:

Samuel Ernest Williamson, born December 1888
Daniel Elbert Williamson, born November 1890

8. JEREMIAH LEGGETT CRANFORD

JEREMIAH LEGGETT CRANFORD, son of William and Sidey E. (Tubb-Patton) Cranford, was born near Seminary, Mississippi on 13 June 1854 and died on 30 March 1915; burial was at Eminence Cemetery. He lived near Eminence Methodist Church, about six miles east of Seminary, where he owned and operated a grocery and dry goods store, and farmed on a rather large scale. It has been said that he was once Postmaster of the long since discontinued post office by the name of Katie. Mr. Cranford married Mary Williamson in Jones County, Mississippi in 1879 and they had the following issue:

Van William Cranford	Mack Buren Cranford
Allen Henry Cranford	James Calhoun Cranford
Chester Jeremiah Cranford	Chesley Jeremiah Cranford
Samuel Eliot Cranford	Katie Bell Cranford

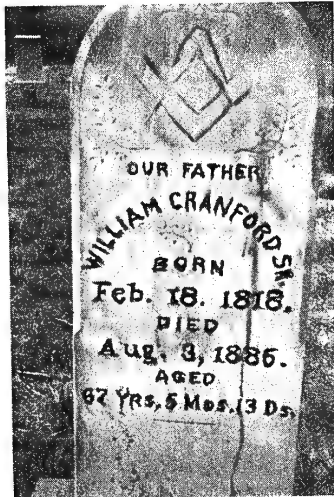


WILLIAM CRANFORD
(Page 61)



DR. ROLAND HOUSTON CRANFORD
(Page 67)

Pascagoula Public Library
Genealogy & Local History Dept.
Wilkes Family



ABNER WILKES

71

Annie Dell Cranford Nathaniel Oscar Cranford
Mary Velma Cranford

9. EMILY CRANFORD

EMILY CRANFORD, daughter of William and Sidey E. (Tubb-Patton) Cranford, was born near Seminary, Mississippi on 26 June 1858 and died on 24 August 1918; burial was at Eminence Cemetery. She married Benjamin Franklin Knight in Jones County, Mississippi on 14 October 1880. They lived in the Eminence community of Covington County where Mr. Knight engaged in farming. The following children were born of this marriage:

Maggie C. Knight, born 3 February 1883
William F. Knight, born 19 May 1885
E. Hubbard Knight, born 3 November 1886
Francis C. Knight, born 2 August 1888
Mary E. Knight, born 5 November 1890
Robert B. Knight, born 20 April 1892
Benjamin F. Knight, Jr., born 23 May 1894
Johnnie P. Knight, born 27 February 1897
Tommie P. Knight, born 27 April 1900

10. CHARLES EDWIN CRANFORD

CHARLES EDWIN CRANFORD, son of William and Sidey E. (Tubb-Patton) Cranford, was born near Seminary, Mississippi on 8 August 1861 and died at his home in Collins, Mississippi on 13 April 1926. Burial was at Eminence Cemetery. Mr. Cranford was a carpenter and blacksmith. He married Vicky Coulter in Jones County, Mississippi in October, 1880, and they had the following issue:

Florence May Cranford, born 2 January 1882
William Sam Cranford, born 9 June 1886

Charles Edwin Cranford married, second, Martha Jane Tisdale Knight at Soule's Chapel in Jones County, Mississippi on 20 August 1889, and they had the following issue:

Charles Warner Cranford, born 15 June 1890
Pierce McLaurin Cranford, born 8 October 1894
Sadie Missouri Cranford, born 20 April 1896
William Tisdale Cranford, born 6 January 1898

G. CHARLOTTE CRANFORD

CHARLOTTE CRANFORD, daughter of John and Elizabeth (Wilkes) Cranford, was born in Chester County, South Carolina in the year 1819. She married Thomas K. C. Gibson (born in Tennes-

Pascagoula Public Library
Genealogy & Local History Dept.
Wilkes Family

72 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

see in 1816) in Morgan County, Alabama on 19 December 1836²². They lived in Winston County, Alabama, where Mr. Gibson engaged in farming. It has been said that she was buried at Mount Hope Cemetery, southeast of Arley in Winston County. The following children were born of this union:

Isham Gibson	George Washington Gibson
Thomas C. Gibson	Jack Gibson
Jerry Gibson	Emily Gibson
Liddy Gibson	Vonnie Gibson
	Hannah Gibson

H. THOMAS CRANFORD

THOMAS CRANFORD, son of John and Elizabeth (Wilkes) Cranford, was born in Chester County, South Carolina about 1820 and came to Alabama with his parents when about two years of age. He moved to Walker County, Alabama with his parents about 1838. He was a farmer of Walker County and was married to Elizabeth

----- They had the following issue:

Elizabeth Cranford	Wesley Cranford
Mary Ann Cranford	Martha Ann Cranford
Robert Cranford	Lucinda Cranford

I. MINERVA CRANFORD

MINERVA CRANFORD, daughter of John and Elizabeth (Wilkes) Cranford, was born in Morgan County, Alabama on 13 July 1827. In 1845 she married John W. Childress, a native of Walker County, Alabama. They lived in Jasper until the birth of their first child, after which they resided in Bessemer, Alabama until about 1852, when they removed to Daingerfield, Texas. In 1865 they were living at Kosse, Texas, where Mr. Childress died and is buried. He was a Confederate soldier, having enlisted at San Antonio 16 February 1861, and served as third corporal in Captain Teel's Company of the Second Regiment. After the death of her husband, Mrs. Childress moved to Rockdale, Texas with her six children and operated a hotel there for many years. She invested her savings in real estate, and it is said that the Minerva Oil Field near Cameron, Texas was named for her.

After her retirement from the hotel business, she moved to Corsicana, Texas to live with her son, James Thomas Childress. She did research work for all Cranfords, and in World War I she worked for her country in every way possible. She was quite active up to her death on 23 February 1926. Her children, grandchildren

22. Morgan County, Alabama Marriage Records

ABNER WILKES

73

and friends knew her as "Dannie." She was buried in the local cemetery at Corsicana. She was a small lady, but proud and independent. She belonged to the Christian Church and walked to church every Sunday dressed in a black dress with a little apron, and carrying a black umbrella. It is said among her relatives that if "Dannie" Childress failed to find a Christian Church in heaven, she would be back soon.

The following children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Childress:

Eliza Childress, born 22 September 1846
William Edward Childress, born 16 March 1850
Ruth Childress, born 13 November 1856
James Thomas Childress, born 8 May 1859
Lizzie Childress, born in 1863
Jay Washington Childress, born 25 March 1865

J. JOHN M. CRANFORD

JOHN M. CRANFORD, son of John and Elizabeth (Wilkes) Cranford, was born in Morgan County, Alabama about 1823. He moved to Walker County, Alabama with his parents in 1838, and engaged in farming after marriage. He married Sarah Ann Thompson in Morgan County, Alabama on 19 October 1843²³. From the 1850 Census Report and from a newspaper account of the death of John M. Cranford, the children were the following:

1. William P. Cranford	2. Austin L. Cranford
3. Huston M. Cranford	4. James Cranford
5. Nida Cranford	6. Minerva Cranford

3. HUSTON M. CRANFORD

HUSTON M. CRANFORD, son of John M. and Sarah Ann (Thompson) Cranford, was born in Walker County, Alabama in 1847 and died in 1939 at his residence, 122 Vincent Street, Peoria Heights, Peoria, Illinois, where he had resided for 35 years. He retired from farming in 1914. He belonged to the Christian Church, and was a member of the Odd Fellows. He was buried at Springdale Cemetery, Peoria. He married Miss Ida Rider at Havana, Illinois in 1891 and they had the following children, named in a newspaper account of his death:

Robert Cranford	Fred Cranford
Virgil Cranford	Austin Cranford
Wilbert Cranford	Lily Cranford
Minnie Cranford	Ella Cranford

Viola Cranford

23. Morgan County, Alabama Marriage Record No. 2, page 440

Pascagoula Public Library
Genealogy & Local History Dept.
Wilkes Family

74 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

K. MALINDA CRANFORD

MALINDA CRANFORD, daughter of John and Elizabeth (Wilkes) Cranford, was born in Morgan County, Alabama on 15 April 1825 and died on 27 July 1887. Burial was in Tubb Cemetery in Walker County. She married Samuel Tubb, who was born in Perry County, Alabama in 1824 and came to Walker County with his parents in 1835. He was a son of Daniel and Matilda (Sanders) Tubb. Daniel Tubb was a veteran of the War of 1812. Samuel Tubb was a member of the 5th Alabama Cavalry, Confederate States Army, was captured in 1864 and held a prisoner of war at Rock Island, Illinois until the end of the war. The following children are known to have been born of this union:

Lee Tubb	Nancy Tubb
Emily Byrd Tubb	Dr. James Madison Tubb
Lucius Carl Tubb	Nardie Tubb
Mancil Tubb	

L. NANCY EMILY CRANFORD

NANCY EMILY CRANFORD, daughter of John and Elizabeth (Wilkes) Cranford, was born near Falkville, Morgan County, Alabama on 7 October 1827 and died on 20 September 1919; burial was at the Tubb family graveyard. She married Daniel Lee Tubb (b. 27 Oct. 1827 - d. 5 Nov. 1857), son of Daniel and Matilda (Sanders) Tubb, and grandson of George and Elizabeth Tubb. They resided in Walker County, Alabama, where Mr. Tubb engaged in farming. The following children were born of this union:

- | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Mary Ann Tubb | 2. Matilda Tubb |
| 3. Samuel Sanders Tubb | 4. Dally Dartha Tubb |
| 5. Malinda Carlery Tubb | 6. King David Tubb |
| 7. Daniel Lee Tubb, Jr. | |

1. MARY ANN TUBB

MARY ANN (POLLY) TUBB, daughter of Daniel Lee and Nancy Emily (Cranford) Tubb, was born in Walker County, Alabama on 13 May 1846. She married Phillip Jefferson Myers, son of William James and Sara (James) Myers, on 5 May 1867. He was born in Coosa County, Alabama on 11 July 1848 and lived in Walker County, where he engaged in farming. Mary Ann died in 1925 and her husband in 1929; both were buried in New Hope Cemetery three miles northeast of Oakman, Alabama. The following children were born of this union:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| a. Gabrilla Augustine Myers | b. Cordelia Matilda Myers |
| c. William Tandy Myers | d. Robin Lee Myers |

ABNER WILKES

75

- | | |
|--|--------------------------|
| e. Darling Eddie Myers | f. Dolly Jane Myers |
| g. Millie Bird Myers | h. Walter Jerome Myers |
| i. Bodine Jefferson Myers | j. Joseph Benjamin Myers |
| k. Claude Titus Myers | l. Exie Cumie Myers |
| m. Marcus Barnabas (Jim Row Peter) Myers | |

d. ROBIN LEE MYERS, son of Phillip Jefferson and Mary Ann (Tubb) Myers, was born in Walker County, Alabama on 30 July 1872. He married Alabama Adeline Sides, daughter of James Harrison and Martha (Odom) Sides, on 26 October 1892. She died on 4 June 1941 and was buried at Pleasant Grove Cemetery. Mr. Myers engaged in farming and mining until he retired some years ago. He died 3 November 1960 and was buried at Pleasant Grove Cemetery, 7 miles southwest of Jasper, Alabama. The following children were born of this union:

Virgie Ethel Myers	Homer Elliot Myers
Birdie Lee Myers	Bruce Myers
Lois Gay Myers	Goldie May Myers
Vera Olive Myers	Lelia Edna Myers
Arley Robin Myers	Rufus Aaron Myers
Ruby Lee Myers	Alabama Jewel Myers

BRUCE MYERS, son of Robin Lee and Alabama Adeline (Sides) Myers, was born near Oakman, Alabama on 9 March 1902. He married Mary Frances Bruce, daughter of John R. and Lily L. (Dickey) Bruce of Madison County, Alabama, on 9 November 1936 at Decatur, Alabama. Mr. Myers obtained his B. S. degree in Education at State Teachers College, Florence, Alabama in 1932 and his M. A. degree in Education and Social Studies at Peabody College for Teachers, Nashville, Tennessee in 1937. He taught in the public schools of Alabama for 17 years, 13 years in Colbert County, and the last 3 years as Principal of Howell-Graves Junior High School at Muscle Shoals, Alabama. He is a member of Phi Delta Kappa fraternity, and belongs to the Church of Christ. He has been the parole and probation officer of the 14th Judicial District of Alabama since 1941. His biography appears in the "Library of Alabama Lives." Mr. Myers is a breeder of milking shorthorn cattle, and his address is P. O. Box 827, Jasper, Alabama. The following children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Myers:

Virginia Ruth Myers, born 27 November 1940
Charlotte Frances Myers, born 25 January 1945
Mary Elizabeth Myers, born 9 November 1946
Bruce Nichols Myers, born 11 June 1949

76 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

M. LYDIA M. CRANFORD

LYDIA M. CRANFORD, daughter of John and Elizabeth (Wilkes) Cranford, was born in Morgan County, Alabama. It is said that she married Matthew Randolph and that they moved to Missouri. No further history of this family has been obtained.

N. CHESLEY HARDY CRANFORD

CHESLEY HARDY CRANFORD, son of John and Elizabeth (Wilkes) Cranford, was born in Morgan County, Alabama on 5 February 1833. He moved to Walker County, Alabama with his parents in 1838 and lived in that county the remainder of his life. He was a successful farmer, and served two terms as Tax Assessor of Walker County. He married Elmartha Morris, daughter of John Harvey and Catherine (Hubbard) Morris, on 15 December 1853. She died 26 June 1910 and he died 9 May 1911; both were buried at New Hope Cemetery, three miles northeast of Oakman, Alabama. Mr. Cranford was a Confederate soldier, enlisting in October 1862 as orderly sergeant in Company G of the 56th Alabama Cavalry. In July 1863 he was transferred to Company E of the 10th Alabama Cavalry and served with that organization the remainder of the war. The following children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Cranford:

1. John Harvey Cranford, born 12 March 1855
2. Frances E. Cranford, born 26 October 1856
3. Modena O. Cranford, born 18 June 1858
4. William Lafayette Cranford, born 7 February 1860
5. Samantha R. Cranford, born 18 November 1863
7. Elias Monroe Cranford, born 27 January 1866
8. Winnifred Cranford, born 16 November 1868
9. Rufus Orlando Cranford, born 27 December 1870
10. Mary E. Cranford, born 22 May 1872
11. Alice A. Cranford, born 1 December 1874
12. Henry Wilson Cranford, born 12 January 1877
13. Stephens Cranford, born 25 December 1878
14. Asa Cranford, born 25 December 1878

1. JOHN HARVEY CRANFORD

JOHN HARVEY CRANFORD, son of Chesley Hardy and Elmartha (Morris) Cranford, was born near Oakman, Alabama 12 March 1855. He died 31 July 1934 and was buried in Oak Hill Cemetery. His educational opportunities were limited to rural schools for a total of 18 months, yet by self-education he had acquired sufficient education to teach in the public schools of his county at the age of twenty-one. He farmed between school terms, and at 25 he secured a job in the B. M. Long Store at Jasper, Alabama where

ABNER WILKES

77

he worked until he went into business with Dr. E. C. Rosamond in 1882. In 1883, Mr. Cranford bought out his partner. In 1887 he shipped the first bale of cotton to be moved out of Jasper by rail. He was mayor of Jasper from 1892 to 1894, and from 1904 to 1906; during the interim he was a member of the City Council almost every year. During his administrations as Mayor, several additions and developments to the city carry credit to his courage and foresight. Mr. Cranford organized the Jasper Water, Light & Power Company and was its president for 17 years. He was principal stockholder in Cranford Mercantile Company, and was president of the Cranford Coal Company. In 1899 he organized the Bank of Jasper, from which grew the First National Bank of Jasper, and for 25 years from its opening he served as the president of the bank.

John Harvey Cranford married Willie A. Phifer on 8 August 1877 at the home of J. B. Sumner in Walker County, Alabama, with J. W. Shepherd, Justice of the Peace, officiating. She died in 1885 without issue and was buried in the Old Cemetery at Jasper. He married, second, Annis Eleanor Lyon, daughter of John and Elizabeth (Morris) Lyon, at San Antonio, Texas on 18 October 1892 and they had the following issue:

- a. Frank Ellis Cranford
- b. Nelson Barker Cranford

9. RUFUS ORLANDO CRANFORD

RUFUS ORLANDO CRANFORD, son of Chesley Hardy and Elmartha (Morris) Cranford, was born on his father's farm near Oakman, Alabama. He died on Sunday night, 15 February 1959, and was buried at Oak Hill Cemetery, Jasper, Alabama. He was a lifelong resident of Walker County, Alabama, and for many years before his death and retirement operated the Cranford Hardware Company of Jasper, dealer in general hardware, farm implements, building materials, plumbing and electric supplies. He was a member of the First Christian Church of Jasper.

Rufus Orlando Cranford and Martha Sproul were married 30 September 1894 and had the following issue:

Clarence Cranford, b. 1 July 1896; d. 10 October 1918 at

Harvard University

Abbie Cranford, b. 18 February 1898; married John Hutto

Charles Rufus Cranford, b. 18 July 1900; married

Hattie Cobb Morton

Elizabeth Julia Cranford, b. 25 February 1904; married

Eugene Lewis McFarland

Edith Cranford, b. 7 November 1911; married Francis

S. Martin

II. NANCY WILKES

NANCY WILKES, daughter of Abner and Martha Wilkes, was born in Chester County, South Carolina. About 1822 she and her brother Asa and other members of the family and relatives moved to Morgan County, Alabama. She married Samuel Barclay in Morgan County 5 February 1825²⁴. Samuel was a son of Robert Barclay, who was born in Ireland in 1763 and came with his parents to South Carolina in 1769. Robert Barclay served as a private soldier under Sumpter in the Revolutionary War, migrated to Tennessee in 1802 and to Morgan County, Alabama in 1816, being one of the first pioneers to cross the Tennessee River into Alabama²⁵. Samuel Barclay was living in Morgan County in 1830, according to the U. S. Census for that year, and had 2 male and 2 female children in the family of himself and wife. No further information has been obtained of this family.

III. SARAH WILKES

SARAH WILKES, daughter of Abner and Martha Wilkes, was born in Chester County, South Carolina. She migrated to Alabama about 1822 with other members of her family and relatives and settled in Morgan County. She married William Nunn in Morgan County on 9 December 1825²⁶, the marriage ceremony being performed by Mr. R. Tapscott, Justice of the Peace. After their marriage they lived in Morgan County, where Mr. Nunn was a farmer. He died in 1829 or 1830 and she died in 1835.

William Nunn is believed to have been a son of Elijah and Frances Nunn, who lived in Chester County, South Carolina before moving to what later became Morgan County, Alabama. William Nunn was among those directed by the Catoca County (Alabama Territory) Court on 14 September 1818 to "view" the authorized road from Somerville to Melton's Bluff. Catoca, named for the tribe of Indians in that area, was organized by the territorial legislature in 1818 and its name was changed to Morgan County, in honor of General Daniel Morgan of Virginia, by the state legislature in 1821. Alabama, originally part of Mississippi Territory, became the Alabama Territory when Mississippi entered the union in 1817 and was left a territory for two years. The following fares ordered by the Catoca County Court on 8 June 1818 for all licensed tavern keepers illustrate the disparity in living cost of that day when compared with prices today:

Breakfast and supper ----- 25 cents

24. Morgan County, Alabama Marriage Records, Book A, page 73
25. Revolutionary Soldiers in Alabama by Thomas M. Owen, Bulletin 5, page 9.
26. Morgan County, Alabama Marriage Records, Book A, page 89

Dinner -----	37½ cents
Keeping horse for 24 hours -----	75 cents
Single feed -----	25 cents
Lodging -----	12½ cents
Half-pint whiskey -----	12½ cents
Half-pint peach brandy -----	18¾ cents

The following children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Nunn:

- A. Elvira Matilda Nunn B. Abbie Malinda Nunn
C. Martha Frances Nunn

A. ELVIRA MATILDA NUNN

ELVIRA MATILDA NUNN, daughter of William and Sarah (Wilkes) Nunn, was born in Morgan County, Alabama on 2 February 1828, and died 31 January 1900. She married James Buchanan McCrosky Morris, a farmer of Morgan County, Alabama, where they lived and died. Both were buried at the McKendree Cemetery. The following children were born of this marriage:

E. Naomi Morris, b. 7 November 1855; married Thomas F. Sheats
George Zebuland Alexander Morris, born 12 February 1857
Martha (Mattie) F. Morris, b. in 1858; married Joe T. Huckabee
W. Frank Morris, b. 13 August 1860; d. unmarried 9 March 1933
James Cassie Morris, b. 11 March 1864; d. unmarried 19 March 1900
Hames B. Morris, born 11 March 1864; died 22 October 1865
Vina W. Morris, born in 1866; married John Freeman
Philemon Anderson Morris, born 12 November 1868
Mary Henrietta Morris, born 12 May 1869; died 22 May 1869
Lula F. Morris, born 2 November 1874; died 26 August 1890
Lillian D. Morris, b. 3 April 1873; married James Summerford

C. MARTHA FRANCES NUNN

MARTHA FRANCES NUNN, daughter of William and Sarah (Wilkes) Nunn, was born in Morgan County, Alabama on 14 December 1828 and died on 28 January 1886. She married Levi N. Stringer (b. 12 October 1827; d. 2 March 1900) in Morgan County on 2 February 1849²⁷, the ceremony being performed by William Ryan, Justice of the Peace. Levi N. was a son of Edward (b. Kentucky 1 February 1788; d. 3 July 1855) and Nancy (Welch) Stringer; he was a grandson of Elimaledge and Anny (Bly) Stringer of Lincoln County, Kentucky, who were married 21 December 1786. Levi N. Stringer was a farmer of Morgan County, Alabama. The following children were born of this union:

1. John Newton Stringer, born 22 December 1849
2. Mary Jane Stringer, born 27 August 1851; died 30 July 1855

27. Morgan County, Alabama Marriage Records, Book B, p. 27

Pascagoula Public Library
Genealogy & Local History Dept.
Wilkes Family

80 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

3. Edward Stringer, born 10 March 1852; died 30 July 1855
4. Sarah Ann Stringer, born 22 May 1855
5. Mary Elizabeth Stringer, b. 28 May 1857; married John A. Russell
6. Susan Matilda Stringer, b. 1 February 1859; married Felix Ryan
7. Martha Malinda Stringer, b. 10 May 1860; married George D. Shelton
8. Margaret Ellen Stringer, b. 29 July 1863; married Walter S. Brown
9. William Stringer, born 14 October 1865
10. Frances Lucinda Stringer, b. 2 April 1867; d. 4 April 1870
11. Jonathan Stringer, born 27 May 1869; died 22 April 1870
12. J. Leonard Stringer, born 20 February 1871
13. Emma Ida Stringer, b. 7 November 1872; married William Dobbs²⁸

4. SARAH ANN STRINGER

SARAH ANN STRINGER, daughter of Levi N. and Martha Frances (Nunn) Stringer, was born in Morgan County, Alabama on 22 May 1855. She spent her early childhood in the Cotaco Valley of Morgan County and taught in the public schools for a time before her marriage to Marcus W. Ratliff in Morgan County on 28 February 1878. They lived in Morgan County, where their home was a haven for weary travellers, and preachers of the gospel were especially welcomed. Never was the house so full that a preacher was turned away.



Besides their own children, they made a home for several others who had been left with no one to care for them, and these men and women and their children and grandchil-

28. Dates in this list obtained from the Bible of the late Sarah Ann Stringer Ratliff

ABNER WILKES

81

dren loved and honored Mrs. Ratliff. They often visited her before her death in Gadsden, Alabama on 1 July 1954 at 104 years of age. It is to be noted that Mrs. Mary Eliza Wilkes Bass of Lumberton, Mississippi, a cousin of Mrs. Ratliff, was born two days before Sarah Ann Stringer Ratliff, but died on 16 March 1959, just before reaching her 104th birthday.

"Aunt Sallie" Ratliff belonged to the Church of Christ and never failed to attend services at her church when able. When she could no longer go to church, she got much pleasure from visits of preachers and singers who would hold services in her home. She had an alert mind and was appreciated by her friends and acquaintances for her wit and keen sense of humor. For many years before her death she lived with her daughters, Mrs. J. L. Aldridge, Mrs. Mary Lee Foote, and Mrs. John W. Enterkin at 3511 Madison Avenue, Gadsden, Alabama. The following children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Ratliff:

Odas Claiborn Ratliff, born 27 December 1878

Martha Frances Ratliff, b. 20 May 1882; married John W.

Enterkin

Lena Elizabeth Ratliff, b. 17 February 1884; married John

D. L. Byars

Emma Kate Ratliff, b. 28 September 1886; married James L.

Aldridge

Mary Lee Ratliff, b. 11 February 1890; married John L. Foote

CHAPTER II

STEPHEN HITCHCOCK WILKES

ASA WILKES

MARTHA WILKES

IV. STEPHEN HITCHCOCK WILKES

STEPHEN HITCHCOCK WILKES, son of Abner and Martha Wilkes, was born on his father's plantation about eight miles west of Chester, South Carolina on 18 April 1794. His mother was a Crider, or Crowder, and it has been said that her mother was a Hitchcock²⁹, however the latter has not been confirmed.

Mr. Wilkes was a witness to a deed made and recorded in Chester County on 10 December 1817. The deed was from Josiah Cranford, Mr. Wilkes' brother-in-law, to Thomas Tanner and covered 66 acres of land lying on Long Branch and waters of Sandy River in Chester County³⁰. On the same day Thomas Tanner sold

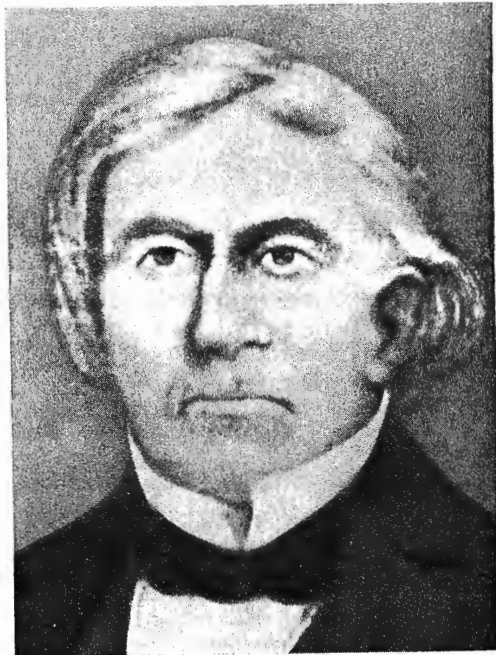
29. Mrs. Emily Roberta Wilkes Leigh

30. Chester County Deed Book S, page 230

82 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

this tract of land to Stephen Wilkes, however no record has been found of the disposition that Mr. Wilkes made of this land.

Mr. Wilkes operated a store that was burned by John Hyatt, and for which Hyatt was tried and convicted at the October term of court 1818. It must have been shortly after this that Mr. Wilkes went west, as his father had done before him. He does not appear in the 1820 census of Chester County, and is presumed to have departed before that census was taken.



Stephen Hitchcock Wilkes and Mary McNeese were married on 18 March 1821³¹. Mary McNeese was born 30 July 1802³² in Georgia³³. It is presumed that the marriage was in Alabama, as their first three children were born in that state³⁴ in 1822, 1823 and 1826. He moved to Marion County, Mississippi in 1827 and settled near what was later Carley Post Office. In 1842 he crossed over the

31. Cem. & Bible Records, Miss. Gen. Soc. Vol. 4, page 59

32. Ibid

33. Census of U.S. for 1850 of Covington County, Mississippi

34. Census of U.S. for 1850 of Covington County, Mississippi

ABNER WILKES

83

border of Marion County into Covington County, Mississippi, and established himself and family at what became known as Wilkesburg, about five miles south of the present Bassfield, Jefferson Davis County.

The first official record found of Stephen Hitchcock Wilkes in Mississippi is the tax rolls of Marion County for the year 1827, and here he is listed as having one poll and \$300 in merchandise. In 1831, he is listed with two polls, one being an overseer most likely, and \$2,164 in merchandise. The records of Marion and Covington Counties show that he bought many tracts of land from the U. S. Government and from private citizens. The first purchase of record was from the United States for the East Half of the Southwest Quarter of Section 24, Township 4, Range 18 West, for which he paid \$100.44 for the 80.35 acres at the Receiver's Office, Augusta, Mississippi, on 31 July 1831³⁵. This land is situated about nine miles north of Columbia, the county seat of Marion County, and it is believed that Mr. Wilkes preempted and settled on this land immediately after his arrival in Mississippi in the spring of 1827. At this time this section of the new State of Mississippi was sparsely settled; however, white settlers, mostly from Alabama, Georgia and South Carolina, were moving in and getting possession of the vacant public land at a rapid pace.

Mr. Wilkes was a man of action and lost no time in developing his property in Marion County. He built a dwelling, slave quarters, shops, barns, and other outbuildings and a general store. A small stream, Mill Creek, ran through his tract of land, and it was here that he built a saw mill, gin, and grist mill, along the lines of what his father had back in Chester County, South Carolina. In addition to operating the mill and store, Mr. Wilkes did a good loan business, and carried on considerable farming and stock raising.

Although his business prospered in Marion County, Mr. Wilkes was an ambitious person and soon concluded that it would be to his advantage and that of his family to move about three miles north, into Covington County, where a large stream, Holiday's Creek, would permit the establishment of a better and larger milling business, and where he would be in the center of a rapidly growing settlement of ambitious white settlers. He sold his mill and about 12 acres of land in Marion County to Mr. William Barnes for \$2,000 on 4 June 1839³⁶, and for many years thereafter this mill was known as the "Billy Barnes" mill. In 1842 Mr. Wilkes pur-

35. Land Records, National Archives, Washington, D. C.

36. Marion County, Mississippi Deed Book C, page 161

84 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

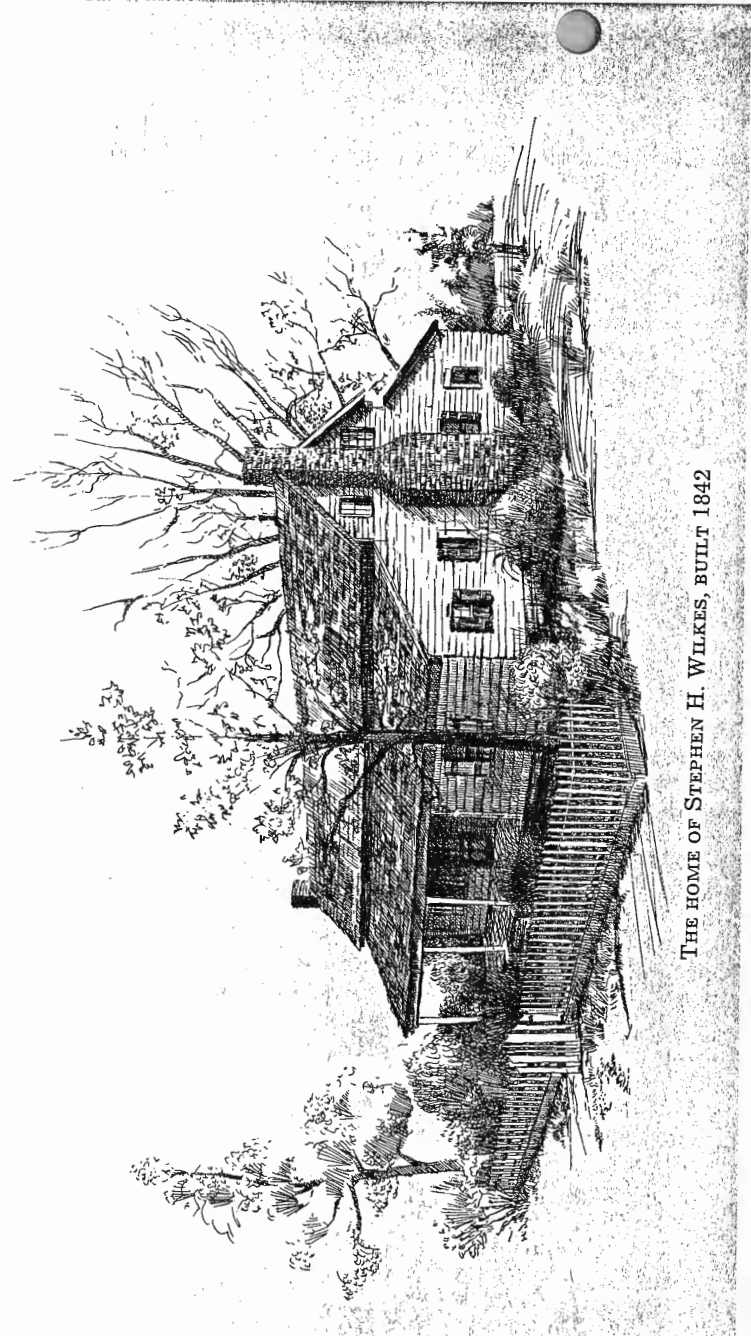
chased from Marcus E. and Lydia E. Carter the Southwest Quarter of Section 31, Township 6, Range 17 West, in Covington County and some adjoining land in Marion County — 280 acres in all, with "buildings, rights, privileges (sic) and appurtenances"³⁷. Mr. Wilkes lost little time in getting settled at this new location. It has been said that he brought carpenters and much material from New Orleans to build onto an existing two-room hewn-log dwelling, which he made into a seven-room, two-story house, five rooms on the first floor and two on the second, with separate stairs leading from the first. It is tradition that, in time of the War Between the States, signals were made from an upstairs window to men in the nearby swamp when it was safe to bring the stock out of hiding.

It is remembered that in Mr. Wilkes' time the dwelling was especially well furnished, with rugs and a piano in the living room. The kitchen was a separate house near the dwelling. A two-room house in the yard accommodated the overseer in one room, and the weavers in the other. The slave quarters were between the dwelling and the mill, and the store was about 100 yards to the north of the dwelling. Shops, barns, and other buildings necessary for the operation of the mill and plantation were built near the dwelling. Looms and spinning-wheels were used to make most of the cloth for the slaves; even double-bed counterpanes, quilts and blankets were made in the weaving shop. The mill complex consisted of a saw mill, cotton gin, and flour mill, all operated by water power.

As a result of the rapid growth of the settlement around the Wilkes store and mill, the United States government established a post office in Mr. Wilkes' store on 14 March 1850 and gave it the name of Wilkesburg³⁸. Mr. Wilkes was the first Postmaster at Wilkesburg, and held the office until his death. This post office, long since discontinued, was on a Star Route from old Holmesville in Pike County to the southwest via Columbia, Marion County, to Williamsburg, the county seat of Covington County, a distance of 80 miles through a sparsely settled country abounding in virgin pine timber and plentiful wildlife. The dirt road followed ridges where possible for good drainage, but there were many small streams to cross, and their swamps were frequently impassable in times of heavy rains due to swollen streams and washouts of the corduroy roads in the swamps. Mr. John Odom, a shoemaker of Williamsburg, was the first person to contract to carry the mail on this route, and William F. Dyess was one of the earliest mail car-

37. Covington County, Mississippi Deed Book 28, page 131

38. Records Industrial Division, National Archives, Washington, D. C.



THE HOME OF STEPHEN H. WILKES, BUILT 1842

riers, starting in 1851 when he was only 14 years of age, at a salary of eight dollars a month plus his "keep." Young Dyess was a "beau brummel" in those days, with his fancy red-top boots with brass toes, made by his employer, and decorated with fancy belled spurs. Clumsy leather mail bags, with lock and chain, and empty except for a few letters and circulars, with now and then stray copies of the Courier-Journal, Picayune, and Commercial-Appeal, were thrown across the cowboy saddle, and, top of this, young Dyess, booted and spurred, wended his way through the long and almost interminable lane of pine trees between Williamsburg and Holmesville. To safeguard the mail, the rider carried a big double-barrelled "hoss" pistol. At this time there was no bridge across Pearl River and the crossing was by manually-operated ferry, but mail carrier Dyess was never delayed. There might be as many as twenty cap-and-ball wagons, dog carts and ground slides awaiting their turn to cross, yet when Dyess arrived with the mail, all others gave him the right of way, as the mail had to get through without delay. The round trip that took Dyess four days to make is now only a matter of a couple of hours by the automobile of today.

Mr. Wilkes bought most of his supplies for his plantation, and goods for his store, in New Orleans, Louisiana, the nearest wholesale market. He also shipped his produce, cotton, hides, furs, et cetera to New Orleans, where Mr. Joseph Lallande was his factor. Getting supplies and goods from New Orleans to Wilkesburg was quite a problem in those days. They were shipped across Lake Pontchartrain by boat to Covington, Louisiana, where they were stored in a Store House until further shipment could be had. Mr. Wilkes bought this Store House from Mr. Lallande in 1841³⁹, and later bought other adjoining lots, all located on Columbia Street in rear of the Court House. From Covington the goods and supplies were hauled in ox-wagons to the plantation at Wilkesburg, Mississippi, a distance of about 75 miles. In good weather the round trip would be made in ten days, but in times of bad weather and heavy rains the wagons were sometimes as much as three weeks making a trip.

Mr. Wilkes was a charter member of St. Albans Lodge Number 60 of the Free and Accepted Masons formed at Columbia, Mississippi on 17 January 1844, at which time he was a third-degree Mason, having been before this a member of Olive Branch Lodge Number 34 of Williamsburg, Mississippi where he was initiated on 19 November 1839. He was again admitted to Olive Branch in 1848 and demitted in 1851.

39. St. Tammany Parish, La. Deed Book G-1, page 627

He was a large man with blue eyes and a ruddy complexion and aristocratic bearing, but tolerant and well-liked by his fellow-citizens. He was elected a Justice of the Peace in Marion County in 1831 and held that office until his death; he was also appointed a Trustee of Sixteenth Section Lands in Marion County. He dressed well and could generally be seen wearing a high silk hat and carrying a gold-headed cane. He was a very charitable person, and so was his wife. They took a keen interest in the welfare of their slaves, of whom there were about fifty, and were doctor and nurse in their illnesses; in turn, the slaves worshipped "Marse Steben" and "Miss Mary." It was largely the loyalty and respect of the Negroes, many of whom were personal and house servants, that made it possible for the Wilkes family to live in the luxury and ease of the old Southern Plantation family.

Mr. Wilkes was a great lover of horse racing. He owned his own race track and had several horses that were entered in the races. It might be suspected that he was related to Burwell Wilkes, the great horse racer of Brunswick County, Virginia in the latter part of the eighteenth century; however, no relationship has been established.

The move to Wilkesburg was followed by greatly increased mercantile and milling business, and the profits from this and his loan business made Mr. Wilkes a wealthy man for the locality and time. He bought many tracts of land in both Marion and Covington counties, and operated several farms. The late Miss Levicey Sally ("Mog") Bolin, who was born in 1865 and knew the Wilkes family well, possessed a wonderful memory of folklore; she told the story that when the Wilkes family moved from Marion to Covington county, Mr. S. H. Speights and four Negroes carried the box that had been especially constructed for transporting the gold and silver, and placed it in a closet built for it under the stairs leading from Mr. Wilkes' room to the second floor of the new home. This sounds like a lot of money, even today, and may be somewhat exaggerated; but one must consider that Mr. Wilkes was doing a large loan and commercial business, away from any nearby bank, and probably had large sums of money on hand most any time, and especially when about to make a buying trip to New Orleans. Also it must be remembered that only hard money, or "specie," was current at that time and place. Some time after moving to Wilkesburg, Mr. Wilkes bought a large iron safe, the first in that part of the country, for the safekeeping of his money and papers.

Mr. Wilkes, "being in sound mind but in feeble health," made

his last will and testament on 22 July 1858 and named his wife, Mary, and his son Stephen H. Pinckney Wilkes, as executrix and executor; later, on 22 January 1859 he named his son-in-law, Charles B. Banks, as additional executor. Mr. Wilkes died on his plantation 7 March 1859, and was buried in the family graveyard only a short distance from the dwelling. The will was probated in Covington County, Mississippi on 11 April 1859, and was also probated in St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana. It is noted that the family name is spelled both "Wilks" and "Wilkes" in the copy of the will in Covington county, and "Wilkes" in the copy at St. Tammany Parish.

Mr. Wilkes' will is a very interesting document, but is too long to be reproduced here. Descendants desiring copies can obtain them at either Collins, Mississippi, or Covington, Louisiana, at the court houses. Some provisions are outlined below. He designated the inscription for his tombstone. He gave his wife \$3,000 in cash "now in her hands," seven Negroes (all named in the will), gold watch, clock with "waits," her selection of furniture not specifically given to the children, two yoke of oxen, three mules or horses, farming implements (listed in the will), six cows and six calves, fifty head of hogs, "all the provisions on the place such as has been laid in for the support of the family for one year after my death," "my lands in Covington County with all the appurtenances thereon, the dwelling house, outhouses, and store house, mill and gin on Holidays Creek in Covington County." He designated that his lands in Marion County, his property in Covington, Louisiana, the residue of hogs, cattle, horses and stock, and the goods in the store to be sold and the proceeds of sale distributed between his wife and children equally. He directed that his notes and accounts be settled and proceeds distributed as above. From the records of Covington County, Mississippi, it would appear that these sales and collections amounted to about \$45,000. In addition to the foregoing, the twelve children were each given cash to a total of \$17,500 and 34 Negroes, besides which they were given their horses, bridles and saddles and in some instances furniture and bedding. It can be seen that Mr. Wilkes, through his good judgment and executive ability, was able to amass a good sized fortune for his time and section of the country.

Just how and when he obtained it is unclear, but Mr. Wilkes owned a cast-iron, muzzle-loading cannon that he kept near his store and fired on holidays and special occasions such as horse races, elections, political rallies, and other occasions of importance.

Pascagoula Public Library
Genealogy & Local History Dept.
Wilkes Family

88 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

to the community. After Mr. Wilkes' death the cannon was to be seen in Columbia, Mississippi for many years. It was fired on the Fourth of July and other occasions by the high school students, and perhaps at times by others; however it became a thing of the past some years ago when some young men of the town threw it into Pearl River, near the old steamboat landing.

The following children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Wilkes, the information coming from family Bibles:⁴⁰

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| A. Martha Jane Wilkes | B. Mary Elizabeth Wilkes |
| C. Sarah H. Wilkes | D. John Ellis Wilkes |
| E. Eliza Ann Wilkes | F. Francis Wilkes |
| G. Nancy Ann Wilkes | H. Abner James Wilkes |
| I. Stephen H. Pinckney Wilkes | J. Joseph Asa Wilkes |
| K. Henry George Wilkes | L. Susan Malissa Wilkes |

A. MARTHA JANE WILKES

MARTHA JANE WILKES, daughter of Stephen Hitchcock and Mary (McNeese) Wilkes, was born in Alabama⁴¹ on 18 February 1822⁴² and died in 1888, with burial at the Brady Graveyard. She married Richard Talley Berry on 9 September 1838 and they lived in Lawrence County, Mississippi, where Mr. Berry was a well-to-do farmer and Justice of the Peace. Mr. Berry was born in South Carolina on 27 April 1810, the son of John Berry, Jr., according to family legend.

From the Bible that Stephen H. Wilkes gave to his daughter Jane and his son-in-law, Richard T. Berry, with the inscription, "Happiness attend you,"⁴³ we have the following as the names of their children:

- | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Lorena Ann Berry | 2. Stephen H. Lemly Berry |
| 3. Abner Wilkes Berry | 4. Sorena Jane Berry |
| 5. Sarah Victoria Berry | 6. Richard Lafayette Berry |
| 7. Eliza Mindoro Berry | 8. Mary Emily Berry |
| 9. Winfield Scott Berry | 10. Rosanna Matilda Berry |
| 11. John Lampkin Berry | 12. Prentiss Webb Berry |

1. LORENA ANN BERRY

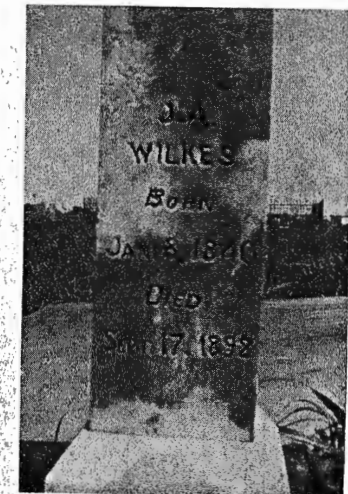
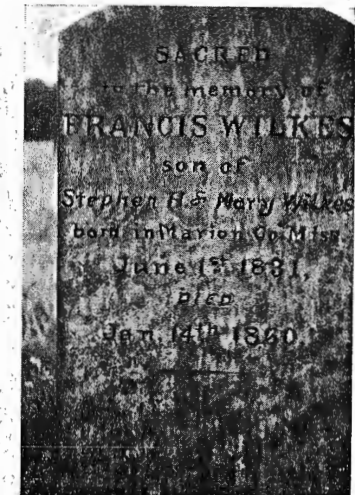
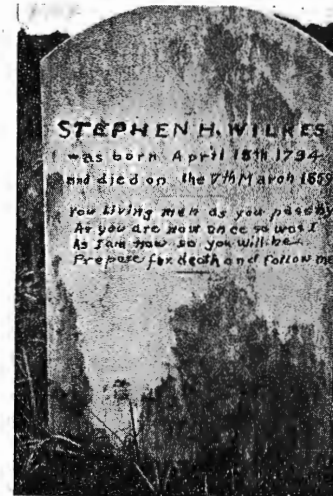
LORENA ANN BERRY, daughter of Richard Talley and Martha Jane (Wilkes) Berry, was born in Lawrence County, Mississippi-

40. Bible of Mrs. J. S. Moore, Magnolia, Miss.; Bible of the late Mrs. Mary E. Wilkes Bass of Lumberton, Miss.; also see Cemetery and Bible Records, Miss. Genealogical Society, Vol. 4, pages 59 & 60

41. U. S. Census, Lawrence County, Mississippi 1850

42. Cemetery & Bible Records, Miss. Gen. Soc. Vol. IV, pp. 59 & 60

43. Ibid



ABNER WILKES

89

pi on 23 June 1839. She married Gilbert B. Shivers in Lawrence County on 2 February 1859, the ceremony being performed by Mr. A. Hartzog, member of the Board of Police for the county. They lived in Lawrence County, where Mr. Shivers was engaged in farming before his death in the Battle of Kennesaw Mountain on 29 June 1864 while serving in the Confederate States Army. The following children were born of this marriage:

Gilbert B. Shivers, Jr.	Eliza Shivers
Martha Shivers	Fannie Shivers

Lorena Ann Berry married, second, James Waltman in Lawrence County, Mississippi on 22 March 1867. They lived at New Hebron, Mississippi, where Mr. Waltman engaged in farming. The following children were born of this marriage:

Mary Waltman	Julia Waltman
Alice Waltman	John Waltman
Richard Waltman	Jennie Waltman
Rosie Waltman	Florence Waltman

2. STEPHEN H. LEMLY BERRY

STEPHEN H. LEMLY BERRY, son of Richard Talley and Martha Jane (Wilkes) Berry, was born in Lawrence County, Mississippi on 7 February 1841 and died at Jackson, Mississippi on 8 August 1905. He resided on Route #2, Silver Creek, Mississippi, where he engaged in farming. He married Sabra Catherine Russell in old Blountville, Mississippi on 10 April 1870. She was born at Mount Carmel, Mississippi, and died on 29 April 1910. The family belonged to Bethel (M. E.) Church near Grange, Lawrence County, Mississippi. The following children were born to this family:

- a. Mae Tilley Berry, born 10 October 1871
- b. Albert Ernest Berry, born 17 January 1873
- c. Richard Talley Berry, born 7 July 1874
- d. Sabra Martha Berry, born 25 December 1875
- e. Arney Omer Berry, born 12 October 1877
- f. Ulus Stephen Berry, born 2 February 1879
- g. Pearlle Eliza Berry, born 21 September 1881
- h. Catherine Belva Berry, born 22 October 1884

h. CATHERINE BELVA BERRY, daughter of Stephen H. Lemly and Sabra Catherine (Russell) Berry, was born near Silver Creek, Mississippi and married Winona Daughdrill at Hooker Hollow, near Whitesand, Lawrence County, Mississippi on 9 January 1902. They live near Silver Creek and engage in farming. The following children have been born to them:

Sabra Evelyn Daughdrill, born 16 October 1903

Pascagoula Public Library
Genealogy & Local History Dept.
Wilkes Family

90 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

Shelton Russell Daughdrill, born 27 June 1905
Earl Daley Daughdrill, born 14 November 1907
Berk Omer Daughdrill, born 27 June 1909
Sallie Aurelia Daughdrill, born 28 April 1911
Lemuel Lafayette Daughdrill, born 21 January 1913

3. ABNER WILKES BERRY

ABNER WILKES BERRY, son of Richard Talley and Martha Jane (Wilkes) Berry, was born in Lawrence County, Mississippi on 12 May 1842. He resided in Lawrence County, where he engaged in farming. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Tobias and Nancy (Stevens) Magee, in Lawrence County on 28 December 1865, the ceremony being performed by the Reverend A. Goss. The following children were born of this marriage:

- a. Adonirum Clephus Berry, born 17 December 1866
- b. Richard Tobias Berry, born 29 September 1868
- c. Lorena Madagascar Berry, born 5 July 1870
- d. Omer Eldridge Berry, born 22 January 1872
- e. Nolan Virgil Berry, born 22 August 1873
- f. Myer Estill Berry, born 9 February 1875
- g. Hooker Elizabeth Berry, born 2 November 1876
- h. Rosie Texas Berry, born 9 September 1878
- i. Fleet Cooper Berry, born 2 March 1880
- j. Garcia Garfield Berry, born 26 March 1882
- k. Marcus Lafayette Berry, born 27 November 1883
- l. Allethia Jane Berry, born 4 October 1884
- m. Magnolia Berry, born 9 February 1889
- n. Beulah N. Berry, born 3 December 1890

His first wife died on 4 June 1909 and Mr. Berry married, second, Elizabeth Mahan on 30 November 1909; no children were born of this second marriage.

a. ADONIRUM CLEPHUS BERRY, son of Abner Wilkes and Elizabeth (Magee) Berry, was born in Lawrence County, Mississippi 17 December 1866. He lived near Prentiss, Mississippi, where he engaged in farming before his death in September 1957. He married Elizabeth Kessiah Ramsey, a descendant of William Ramsey, a Revolutionary soldier⁴⁴, at Hazlehurst, Mississippi on 11 April 1897. They had the following children:

Mattie Claire Berry, born 29 November 1898
Mary Rebecca Berry, born 16 July 1900
Bettie Magee Berry, born 26 January 1903

44. Daughters of the American Revolution #442649, Mrs. C. R. Quinn

ABNER WILKES

91

Donna Mae Berry, born 7 May 1904
Hazle Wilkes Berry, born 12 August 1906
Alma Beulah Berry, born 3 November 1907
Evan Ramsey Berry, born 9 July 1919

4. SORENA JANE BERRY

SORENA JANE BERRY, daughter of Richard Talley and Martha Jane (Wilkes) Berry, was born in Lawrence County, Mississippi on 26 February 1844. She married James Bassel Russell in Lawrence County on 22 December 1870, the ceremony being performed by Reverend John W. Williams. They resided in Lawrence County and engaged in farming. They had the following issue:

Charles Russell, born 23 August 1871
Fannie Russell, born 6 October 1872
James Russell, born 31 October 1875
Martha Russell, born 29 December 1877
Ora Russell, born 30 June 1882

5. SARAH VICTORIA BERRY

SARAH VICTORIA BERRY, daughter of Richard Talley and Martha Jane (Wilkes) Berry, was born in Lawrence County, Mississippi on 23 February 1846 and died in July 1888; burial was at the Shivers family graveyard, Shivers, Mississippi. She married Evan C. Shivers in Lawrence County on 12 September 1865, the marriage being performed by Mr. James Mikell, Justice of the Peace. They lived at Shivers, where Mr. Shivers engaged in farming. A Post Office was established at Shivers in the 1880's and named for Mr. Evan C. Shivers. The following children were born to this family:

- a. Franklin E. Shivers, born 10 August 1866
- b. Richard Bennett Shivers, born March 1868
- c. Jennie Shivers, born 1870 and died 31 August 1871
- d. Emma Shivers, born 13 March 1871
- e. Katie Shivers, born 1872
- f. Villie Pigue Shivers, born 15 November 1874
- g. Addie Shivers, born 19 July 1876
- h. Mattie Pheriba Shivers, born 7 December 1877
- i. Webb Damphier Shivers, born 4 April 1880
- j. George Evan Shivers, born 10 March 1882
- k. Grover Cleveland Shivers, born 17 April 1884
- l. Lela Lila Shivers, born 24 January 1886
- m. Effie Victoria Shivers, born 25 February 1889

a. FRANKLIN E. SHIVERS, son of Evan C. and Sarah Vic-

toria (Berry) Shivers, was born at Shivers, Simpson County, Mississippi, on 10 August 1866 and died at Forest, Louisiana, on 17 June 1943. He married Frances Rebecca, daughter of Nathaniel W. and Mary (Pierce) Francis, at Hopewell, Copiah County, Mississippi, on 16 January 1889. She was a graduate of Lea Female College, Summit, Mississippi, and taught in the public schools of Copiah, Lawrence, and Simpson counties for several years. Soon after their marriage, they moved to Westville, the first county seat of Simpson County, where they operated a general store; they moved to D'Lo, Mississippi in 1900 and operated a larger store there until 1908, when they moved to Mount Olive, Mississippi and engaged in general merchandising until 1911, when they moved to Forest, Louisiana, where Mr. Shivers was a well-known merchant at the time of his death. During the time that Mr. Shivers was in the mercantile business, Mrs. Shivers, an expert milliner, operated a separate millinery and dress goods department. She was born 29 January 1866 and died 28 June 1953. The following children were born of this union:

aa Vernon Frances Shivers bb Blanche Victoria Shivers

aa. VERNON FRANCES SHIVERS was born at old Westville, Simpson County, Mississippi on 8 October 1890. He was a veteran of World War I with service in the 90th Division of the United States Army. He died at Forest, Louisiana on 7 March 1930.

bb. BLANCHE VICTORIA SHIVERS was born at D'Lo, Mississippi on 25 January 1903. She received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Judson College, Marion, Alabama in 1923, and thereafter for several years taught mathematics and social science in high schools of Alabama and Louisiana. She married Buford Jones Abney, who was born in Montrose, Mississippi on 31 December 1903, at Forest, Louisiana. They reside at Forest, where Mr. Abney is an automobile and farm implement dealer, and Mrs. Abney operates a grocery.

b. RICHARD BENNETT SHIVERS, son of Evan C. and Sarah Victoria (Berry) Shivers, was born at Shivers, Simpson County, Mississippi in March 1868. He lived in Simpson County and engaged in farming. He married Ellen Spurlock and they had no issue, but adopted Emma Belle Owens who married W. B. Cliburn.

d. EMMA SHIVERS, daughter of Evan C. and Sarah Victoria (Berry) Shivers, was born at Shivers, Mississippi on 13 March 1871. She married William Walker and they lived at Pinola, Mississippi. They had no children of their own, but adopted the following:

Lewis A. Myers

Belle Myers

LEWIS A. MYERS, after service in World War I, became a Baptist minister. He was a professor at Southwestern Baptist Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas; then editor of a Baptist paper in Missouri; and later editor of a Baptist paper in Albuquerque, New Mexico until his retirement in 1958.

BELLE MYERS married Roy Traylor. They lived in Jackson, Mississippi and had the following issue:

Osborn Walker Traylor

f. VILLIE FIGUE SHIVERS, son of Evan C. and Sarah Victoria (Berry) Shivers, was born at Shivers, Mississippi on 15 November 1874, and died on 12 March 1932. His first marriage was to Ada Bishop on 29 March 1899 and they had the following issue:

aa Evan Bishop Shivers

Villie Pigue Shivers married, second, Kate Patterson on 14 January 1906 and they had the following issue:

bb Ellen Rose Shivers	cc Mary Bennie Shivers
dd Annie Will Shivers	ee Villie Pigue Shivers, Jr.
ff Woodrow Wilson Shivers	gg Richard Bennett Shivers
hh Patterson Harrison Shivers	

aa. EVAN BISHOP SHIVERS, son of Villie Pigue and Ada (Bishop) Shivers, was born in 1903. He married Maxie Dickerson in 1922. He was a graduate of Southwestern Baptist Seminary and became a Baptist minister. He had several pastorates in Mississippi, served as pastor of a church in Rossville, Georgia, for seven years, and served for eight years as pastor of Inman Park Baptist Church, Atlanta, Georgia. The following children have been born of this union:

Evan Burnell Shivers Robert Lewis Shivers
Thomas Lynn Shivers, and Polly Shivers, adopted

g. ADDIE SHIVERS, daughter of Evan C. and Sarah Victoria (Berry) Shivers, was born at Shivers, Mississippi on 19 July 1876. She married Lewis Evan Magee in 1897. Mr. Magee was a lawyer and served as Circuit Clerk and Sheriff of Simpson County, Mississippi. The following children were born of this union:

Linnie Odette Magee, born 19 June 1899
Evan C. Magee, born 20 November 1901
Lewis Evan Magee, Jr., born 17 June 1904
Marshall Miller Magee, born January 1907
Franklin E. Magee, born March 1908
Addie Mae Magee, born 28 November 1910
Bill Robert Magee, born 12 September 1912

Pascagoula Public Library
Genealogy & Local History Dept.
Wilkes Family

94 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

h. MATTIE PHERIBA SHIVERS, daughter of Evan C. and Sarah Victoria (Berry) Shivers, was born at Shivers, Mississippi on 7 December 1877. She married Daniel Claud Parkman on 27 October 1898. Mr. Parkman was a planter-merchant of Mount Olive, Mississippi and Forest, Oak Grove and Epps, Louisiana before his death on 9 January 1952. Mrs. Parkman now resides at Forest, Louisiana. The following children were born of this marriage:

Mattie Lee Parkman, born 17 June 1899
Ruby May Parkman, born 20 August 1901
Emma Ludy Parkman, born 15 February 1905
James Evan Parkman, born 16 September 1907
Benjamin Franklin Parkman, born 2 April 1910
Christine Beverly Parkman, born 8 February 1914

i. WEBB DAMPHIER SHIVERS, son of Evan C. and Sarah Victoria (Berry) Shivers, was born at Shivers, Mississippi on 4 April 1880, and died on 3 December 1943. It is reported that he married Minnie Hartzog and they had the following children:

Frank Shivers	Roy Cleveland Shivers
James Earl Shivers	Sarah Victoria Shivers
Effie Marie Shivers	Evan Charles Shivers
Grace Ramsey Shivers	Webb Damphier Shivers, Jr.

j. GEORGE EVAN SHIVERS, son of Evan C. and Sarah Victoria (Berry) Shivers, was born at Shivers, Mississippi on 10 March 1882. He resides at Shivers, where he has engaged in farming and has served as a rural free delivery mail carrier. He married Roma McKinnis and they have the following issue:

Addie Pheriby Shivers, born 20 September 1913
George Evan Shivers, Jr., born 8 March 1917
Nancy Lee Shivers, born 13 January 1919
Eugene C. Shivers, born 1921
T. Webb Shivers, born 1 October 1923
James Albert Shivers, born 31 May 1926
Roma Catherine Shivers, born 24 October 1929
Emma Jeanette Shivers, born 7 March 1931
Maggie Lucille Shivers, born 1935

k. GROVER CLEVELAND SHIVERS, son of Evan C. and Sarah Victoria (Berry) Shivers, was born at Shivers, Mississippi on 17 April 1884. He lives at New Hebron, Mississippi, and is a farmer and has served as Mayor of the town. He married Fannie S. Myers and they had the following issue:

Grover Cleveland Shivers, Jr.

ABNER WILKES

95

Frances E. Shivers, born 17 March 1921

l. LELA LILA SHIVERS, daughter of Evan C. and Sarah Victoria (Berry) Shivers, was born at Shivers, Mississippi on 24 January 1886. She married William C. Turnage and they lived on a farm near New Hebron, Mississippi until Mr. Turnage's death. The following children were born of this union:

William C. Turnage, Jr., born September 1914
Evan Albert Turnage, born 1918
Lela Victoria Turnage, born 26 November 1923

m. EFFIE VICTORIA SHIVERS, daughter of Evan C. and Sarah Victoria (Berry) Shivers, was born at Shivers, Mississippi on 25 February 1889 and died in 1957. She married Charles Little in 1912, who was a bank cashier at New Hebron, Mississippi and later at Forest, Louisiana, where he died in 1950. The following child was born to this family:

Charles Little, Jr., born 15 February 1914

6. RICHARD LAFAYETTE BERRY

RICHARD LAFAYETTE BERRY, son of Richard Talley and Martha Jane (Wilkes) Berry, was born in Lawrence County, Mississippi on 2 July 1848. He lived at what is now Prentiss, Mississippi, where he and his brother, John Larkin Berry, operated a general store. He died, unmarried, in April 1912 and was buried at the Brady family graveyard near Prentiss.

7. ELIZA MINDORO BERRY

ELIZA MINDORO BERRY, daughter of Richard Talley and Martha Jane (Wilkes) Berry, was born in Lawrence County, Mississippi, on 27 August 1850 and died 15 February 1929, with burial at Society Hill Baptist Church Cemetery. She married George Monroe Buckley in Lawrence County on 19 December 1872, the wedding ceremony being performed by the Reverend Noel Robertson. Mr. Buckley was a descendant of Butler Buckley, a private in the Virginia militia in the French and Indian War. This family lived at Hathorn, Marion County, Mississippi, where Mr. Buckley engaged in farming. The following children were born of this marriage:

- Eustace Monroe Buckley, born 28 December 1873
- Frank Wylie Buckley, born 6 February 1882
- Theodore Ford Buckley, born 15 January 1885
- Major Barksdale Buckley, born 26 December 1888
- Tamer U. Buckley
- Van Burton Buckley, died as a child

Pascagoula Public Library
Genealogy & Local History Dept.
Wilkes Family

96 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

g. Colon Floyd Buckley, died as a child

b. FRANK WYLIE BUCKLEY, son of George Monroe and Eliza Mindoro (Berry) Buckley, was born 6 February 1882 in Marion County, Mississippi. He lives at Hathorn, Mississippi, where he is a retired employee of Gulf Oil Corporation. He married Otto Watts, daughter of George W. and Mary (Hood) Watts, in Jefferson Davis County, Mississippi on 19 December 1913, and they had the following issue:

Frank Wilson Buckley

FRANK WILSON BUCKLEY, son of Frank Wylie and Otto (Watts) Buckley, was born at Prentiss, Mississippi on 7 October 1914. His schooling was: Public Schools of Mississippi and Louisiana; B.A. degree from Louisiana College in 1936; LL.B. degree from Vanderbilt University in 1954; M.A. degree from Florida State University in 1955. In 1960 he was chairman of the Department of Journalism at the University of Southern Mississippi, where he began teaching in 1955. Prior to going to U.S.M., he had 20 years experience as a newspaper reporter, financial editor, copy editor, and publisher. He was admitted to the Mississippi Bar in 1954; he is a deacon of the Baptist Church. He is a member of the American Bar Association, the Association for Education in Journalism, and the Association of Journalism School Administrators.

Frank Wilson Buckley is a veteran of World War II. He entered the United States Navy as an ensign in the Naval Reserve force on 10 October 1942, and was a lieutenant when discharged 15 March 1946. He was a Naval aviator whose wartime duties included primary flight instruction of both American and French cadets, and a short time as Air Combat Intelligence Officer just before the end of hostilities.

Frank Wilson Buckley and Vonnice Verette Crouch were married at Alexandria, Louisiana on 22 December 1940, and they have the following children:

Charles Ray Buckley, born 17 June 1942

Ronald Lewis Buckley, born 26 November 1945

Mary Carole Buckley, born 21 August 1948

8. MARY EMILY BERRY

MARY EMILY BERRY, daughter of Richard Talley and Martha Jane (Wilkes) Berry, was born in Lawrence County, Mississippi on 21 January 1852. She married John Stephen Bozeman in Lawrence County on 22 December 1870, the ceremony being performed by the Reverend John W. Williams. They lived at old Blountville

ABNER WILKES

97

(now Prentiss), Mississippi, where Mr. Bozeman engaged in farming. The following children were born to them:

Samuel Bozeman

John Bozeman

Dudley Bozeman

Peter Bozeman

Scott Bozeman

Ted Bozeman

Ella Bozeman

Rose Bozeman

Lela Bozeman

Florence Bozeman

Jennie Bozeman

Vilma Bozeman

Prentice Webb Bozeman

9. WINFIELD SCOTT BERRY

WINFIELD SCOTT BERRY, son of Richard Talley and Martha Jane (Wilkes) Berry, was born in Lawrence County, Mississippi on 2 May 1854. He was a graduate of the Medical College, Tulane University of Louisiana, and did General Practice at old Blountville (now Prentiss), Mississippi, until his death from a heart attack on 5 October 1885. Burial was in the Brady family graveyard near Prentiss. Dr. Berry never married.

10. ROSANNA MATILDA BERRY

ROSANNA MATILDA BERRY, daughter of Richard Talley and Martha Jane (Wilkes) Berry, was born in Lawrence County, Mississippi on 16 March 1856. She married Eugene O'Rourke (7 September 1856 - 12 October 1903) at Blountville, Mississippi on 14 November 1883, the marriage being performed by Reverend N. Zaur. They lived at Spring Cottage, Marion County, Mississippi, where Mr. O'Rourke was a farmer and lumberman. He was buried at Santee, Mississippi and Mrs. O'Rourke, who died 16 May 1941, was buried at Columbia, Mississippi, her home at the time of her death. They had the following children:

a. Vesta M. O'Rourke, born 5 September 1884

b. Michael L. O'Rourke, born 3 March 1886

c. Sarah Scottie O'Rourke, born 10 March 1887

d. Mary Emily O'Rourke, born 18 October 1892

e. Nellie Frances O'Rourke, born 9 September 1896

c. SARAH SCOTTIE O'ROURKE, daughter of Eugene and Rosanna Matilda (Berry) O'Rourke, was born at Spring Cottage, Marion County, Mississippi 10 March 1887. She married Richard B. Kemp at Columbia, Mississippi on 12 February 1907. They reside at 4728 West Beach, Gulfport, Mississippi. Mr. Kemp is a veteran of the Spanish-American War. The following child was born of this marriage:

Virginia Louise Kemp, born 28 November 1907

11. JOHN LAMPKIN BERRY

JOHN LAMPKIN (LARKIN) BERRY, son of Richard Talley and Martha Jane (Wilkes) Berry, was born in Lawrence County, Mississippi on 24 March 1861 and died on 7 November 1930, burial being at the Town Cemetery of Prentiss, Mississippi. He lived at Prentiss (old Blountville), where he engaged in farming and operated a general store with his brother, Richard Lafayette Berry. He married Sarintha J. Blount, daughter of William Blount, on 10 January 1883, the marriage being performed by Mr. A. W. Stringer, a member of the Board of Supervisors of Lawrence County. The following children were born of this marriage:

- a. James Leo Berry
- b. Winfield Scott Berry
- c. Roscoe C. Berry
- d. Mae Berry
- e. Annie Rose Berry

a. JAMES LEO BERRY, son of John Lampkin and Sarintha Jane (Blount) Berry, was born at old Blountville (now Prentiss), Mississippi on 15 October 1883, and died at Jackson, Mississippi on 31 October 1935, with burial at Prentiss. He was a graduate of Millsaps College, Jackson, Mississippi, and Soule College, New Orleans, Louisiana. He lived in Prentiss and was in the mercantile business with his father. He was connected with a bank in Gulfport, Mississippi, and was with the Mississippi State Banking Department at the time of his death. James Leo Berry and Margaret Lewis were married at Columbia, Mississippi on 28 November 1917, and they had the following issue:

Mary Jean Berry

Margaret Berry

b. WINFIELD SCOTT BERRY, son of John Lampkin and Sarintha Jane (Blount) Berry, was born at Blountville (now Prentiss), Mississippi, on 7 October 1885 and died 10 October 1954. Burial was at Prentiss. He was named for his uncle, Dr. W. S. Berry, who died of a heart condition the day before the former's birth. Winfield Scott Berry graduated from the Medical College of Tulane University of Louisiana in 1900 and thereafter did general medical practice in his home town. He operated a hospital at Laurel, Mississippi and later in Prentiss. He married Helen Campbell and they had the following issue:

John Scott Berry, born 29 September 1914

Dr. Berry married, second, Minnie Koen at Hattiesburg, Mississippi on 7 October 1920, and they had the following issue:

Winfield Scott Berry, Jr., born 16 January 1923

c. ROSCOE C. BERRY, son of John Lampkin and Sarintha Jane (Blount) Berry, was born at Blountville (now Prentiss),

Mississippi on 18 November 1887, and died 27 July 1948. Burial was at Prentiss. He was a graduate of Millsaps College. He married Margarite Chalk at Gulfport, Mississippi. They lived at Prentiss, where Mr. Berry was in the insurance business and practiced law. They had the following issue:

Dr. R. L. Berry

d. MAE BERRY, daughter of John Lampkin and Sarintha Jane (Blount) Berry, was born at Blountville (now Prentiss), Mississippi on 17 March 1891. She married O. S. Rouse at Prentiss on 16 November 1916 and they lived at Prentiss, where Mr. Rouse was a druggist. They had the following children:

Annie J. Rouse

Linda Mae Rouse

e. ANNIE ROSE BERRY, daughter of John Lampkin and Sarintha Jane (Blount) Berry, was born at Blountville (now Prentiss), Mississippi on 23 September 1896. She is a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution under the service of Warren Blount of North Carolina. She married Clyde Smith at Prentiss, Mississippi on 7 October 1920. They reside at Prentiss, where Mr. Smith engages in farming and is a dealer in International Harvester products.

She is a graduate of Mississippi State College for Women, and did graduate work in Music at the University of Southern Mississippi. She taught in the public schools of Mississippi and Louisiana for five years. She has been on the Mental Health Board of Mississippi for seven years, and has been with the Red Cross for twenty years; she has been County Chairman, and has served as Secretary of Jefferson Davis County Red Cross for five years.

Mr. Smith, born in Tylertown, Mississippi, graduated from Mississippi Agricultural & Mechanical College (now Mississippi State University), and served one year with the Florida State Plant Board before World War I. He served as a commissioned officer in the Chemical Warfare branch of the Army during World War I. During World War II he served as Captain of the Home Guard, and was discharged with the rank of Major. He has been on the official board of the Methodist Church, Board of Aldermen as Mayor pro tem for the past twelve years. He organized the Veterans of World War I of his county, and served as their commander; presently he is a member of the State of Mississippi Officers of World War I.

Mr. and Mrs. Smith have one child:

John Berry Smith, born 23 December 1932

JOHN BERRY SMITH

JOHN BERRY SMITH, son of Clyde and Annie Rose (Berry)

Pascagoula Public Library
Genealogy & Local History Dept.
Wilkes Family

100 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

Smith, was born at Prentiss, Mississippi 23 December 1932. He served in the U. S. Navy for four years during the Korean Conflict. He married Ruth Miller, a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution under the service of Esau Bass, and they have two children:

Richard Keith Smith, born 15 June 1955
Angela Rose Smith, born 26 August 1958

12. PRENTISS WEBB BERRY

PRENTISS WEBB BERRY, son of Richard Talley and Martha Jane (Wilkes) Berry, was born in Lawrence County, Mississippi on 3 November 1863. He lived in Prentiss (named for him), Mississippi, where he engaged in farming, and owned a good part of the town. He is buried at the Brady family graveyard near Prentiss. He married Effie Magee in Lawrence County on 28 December 1881, the ceremony being performed by Mr. T. J. Murray, Justice of the Peace. They had the following children born to them:

Buford Berry	Maggie Berry
Wood L. Berry	Bettie Berry
Nona Rose Berry	Paul Berry
Magee Berry	Ada Mae Berry
James Ray Berry	Prentiss Webb Berry, Jr.
Kendall Berry	Myron Berry

B. MARY ELIZABETH WILKES

MARY ELIZABETH WILKES, daughter of Stephen Hitchcock and Mary (McNeese) Wilkes, was born in Alabama⁴⁵ on 15 February 1823⁴⁶. She married James David Berry, brother of Richard Talley Berry, in Marion County, Mississippi on 10 July 1841⁴⁷. They lived in Lawrence County, Mississippi after their marriage until 1844, when they sold their farm and moved to Arkansas. It has been reported that he published a small weekly newspaper at Stafford, Arkansas, but this has not been confirmed. Before going to Arkansas, Mr. Berry was a second sergeant of Mississippi militia. According to reports, no children were born to this family.

C. SARAH H. WILKES

SARAH H. WILKES, daughter of Stephen Hitchcock and Mary (McNeese) Wilkes, was born in Alabama on 7 February 1826. She married Jacob Carter, a farmer of Lawrence County, Mississippi. The father of Jacob Carter was Marcus Elam Carter, who

45. U. S. Census of 1850

46. Family Bible Record

47. Marriage Records, Marion County, Mississippi, Book C.

ABNER WILKES

101

bought and sold many tracts of land in Marion, Covington and Lawrence counties. It was Marcus Elam Carter and his wife, Lydia E. Carter, who sold land to Stephen H. Wilkes in 1842 that became known later as Wilkesburg. Marcus Carter was a corporal in the Thirteenth Mississippi Territory Militia in the War of 1812⁴⁸. The grandfather of Jacob Carter was a Revolutionary soldier, also named Jacob Carter, who applied for a pension in 1835 while a resident of Marion County, Mississippi. In his application⁴⁹, he stated that he was born in New Jersey in 1758 and was drafted in 1774 in defense against the hostile Shawnee Indians under Captain John Pierpont and Lieutenant Rogers in the expedition to Jacob Stradler's Station on Duncan Creek, and that his residence at the time was at the fork of Cheat and Monongahela rivers in Pennsylvania. He further stated that about a month after his three months service ended he volunteered for further service and crossed the Monongahela river opposite David Owen's Station; that he remained at this place for three months and was then orally discharged. He stated that he removed to Surry County, North Carolina in 1777 and volunteered there under Captain Sallatheil Martin and was elected first lieutenant of the company and that the election was confirmed by the county court, and that he remained with this company for three years. He also stated that he again entered military service in 1780 as a volunteer under Colonel Isaacs, that they marched to South Carolina and joined General Gates and, after witnessing the defeat of Gates on 17 August 1780 he returned home. After the Battle of Kings Mountain, he was taken prisoner by the Tories. In the commencement of the battle he was shot in the forehead and was later paroled and returned home. Afterward he substituted for Peter Sally under Colonel Smith and Captain Wright. William Norris of Harris County, Georgia, certified that Jacob Carter served as a lieutenant in the Revolutionary War in General Rutherford's Brigade, Colonel Smith's Regiment, and Captain Daniel Wright's Company of North Carolina Mounted Infantry, and that he served with Jacob Carter for three months.

The following children were born to Jacob and Sarah H. (Wilkes) Carter:

Mary (Mollie) Carter	Abner Carter
Lucy Ann Carter	John Carter
Stephen Carter	Albert Carter
Robert Carter	

48. Miss. State Archives, Jackson, Miss.

49. National Archives, Washington, D. C.

102 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

D. JOHN ELLIS WILKES

JOHN ELLIS WILKES, son of Stephen Hitchcock and Mary (McNeese) Wilkes, was born in Marion County, Mississippi⁵⁰ on August 11, 1827⁵¹. He was a farmer and lived near his father's place at Wilkesburg, about four miles south of Bassfield in Jefferson Davis County, Mississippi on the old Columbia-Williamsburg road. Mr. Wilkes died on his farm on 14 April 1900 and was buried in the family graveyard nearby. John Ellis Wilkes and Lucy Ann Carter, daughter of Marcus Elam and Lydia E. Carter, were married on 9 August 1851 and had the following issue:

1. John Ira Wilkes
2. Belle Zora Wilkes, b. 7 Sept. 1855; d. 18 Sept. 1909
3. Stephen Asa Wilkes

John Ellis Wilkes married, second, Mrs. Elizabeth Watts Harvey and they had no issue. He married, third, Matilda Gates, daughter of Patrick and Eliza (Goss) Gates in Marion County, Mississippi on 26 August 1866⁵² and they had the following children born to them:

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 4. Mary Elizabeth Wilkes | 5. Lucy Ann Wilkes |
| 6. Susannah Wilkes | 7. Sally Victoria Wilkes |
| 8. Leffie Ellis Wilkes | 9. Jennie Wilkes |
| 10. Syrenthia Wilkes | 11. Melvina Wilkes |
| 12. Pearl Lee Wilkes | 13. Quitman Wilkes |

1. JOHN IRA WILKES

JOHN IRA WILKES, son of John Ellis and Lucy Ann (Carter) Wilkes, was born in Marion County, Mississippi on 3 June 1852 and died on his farm near the place of his birth on 2 January 1922. Burial was at the Lott Family graveyard seven miles north of Sumrall, Mississippi. Although a good farmer, Mr. Wilkes was an ardent disciple of Izaak Walton and could usually find the time to fish on Holidays Creek and at the Bass mill when he felt the urge. When he had his "druthers" he and Mary, his wife, usually wound up fishing when conditions were at all promising. They had the patience of Job and generally took a good catch home with them, although they may have had a long day of it before being willing to call it a day.

John Ira Wilkes and Mary Martin, daughter of Berry and Zanie (Meyers) Martin, were married on 5 February 1885 and had no issue. Mary Martin Wilkes was an accomplished cook, whose pies

50. U. S. Census 1850, Marion County, Miss.
51. Family Bibles
52. Marriage records, Marion County, Miss.

ABNER WILKES

103

were something out of this world. She died at her home in Sumrall, Mississippi on 3 December 1955 and was buried alongside her husband at the Lott Family graveyard.

3. STEPHEN ASA WILKES

STEPHEN ASA (ACEY) WILKES, son of John Ellis and Lucy Ann (Carter) Wilkes, was born in Marion County, Mississippi on 5 February 1858. He was a farmer and lived near his place of birth. He died on his farm on 20 November 1937 and was buried at the cemetery of New Bethel Baptist Church. He married Myra Polk and they had the following issue:

Cordie Wilkes

Stephen Asa Wilkes married, second, Parlee Bryant, daughter of Arvin A. and Nancy (Bass) Bryant, in Marion County, Mississippi on 20 February 1898. They had one child that died in infancy.

4. MARY ELIZABETH WILKES

MARY ELIZABETH WILKES, daughter of John Ellis and Matilda (Gates) Wilkes, was born in Marion County, Mississippi, on 14 March 1867. She married Lauren Edgar Stringer on 14 February 1886. They lived near Bassfield, Mississippi, where Mr. Stringer engaged in farming. Mr. Stringer died on 12 November 1921 and was buried in the Wilkes family graveyard; Mrs. Stringer died on 18 October 1959 and was buried alongside her husband. The following children were born to this couple:

- | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| a. Isaac Homer Stringer | b. Hollie Seymour Stringer |
| c. Beulah Stringer | |

a. ISAAC HOMER STRINGER, son of Lauren Edgar and Mary Elizabeth (Wilkes) Stringer, was born near the present Bassfield, Mississippi on 18 March 1889. He married Eather Miller at Columbia, Mississippi on 11 August 1910. They lived near Bassfield and had the following issue:

Estus Stringer, born 20 Nov. 1912

b. HOLLIE SEYMOUR STRINGER, son of Lauren Edgar and Mary Elizabeth (Wilkes) Stringer, was born in Marion County, Mississippi on 26 May 1894. He lives near Bassfield, Mississippi, where he engages in farming. He married Mattie Mae Miller, daughter of Redmond and Dicy Miller, at Columbia, Mississippi on 10 July 1912 and they have the following children:

Beulah Vivian Stringer, born 13 April 1913

Ruby Mae Stringer, born 27 May 1915

Louis Howard Stringer, born 29 June 1919

Pascagoula Public Library
Genealogy & Local History Dept.
Wilkes Family

104 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

Shelby Miller Stringer, born 7 April 1927
Kenneth Lavelle Stringer, born 19 Jan. 1931
L. E. Stringer, born 28 Sept. 1932

Louis Howard Stringer served in the U. S. Army Air Corps for four years during World War II.

Shelby Miller Stringer is a veteran of World War II, with one year in the U. S. Navy.

Kenneth Lavelle Stringer is a Baptist minister.

L. E. Stringer served in the U. S. Army aviation from July 1954 to December 1957 and was stationed in Germany for 26 months.

c. BEULAH STRINGER, daughter of Lauren Edgar and Mary Elizabeth (Wilkes) Stringer, was born in Marion County, Mississippi on 6 August 1896. She married Houston Love Bass at Bunker Hill, Marion County, on 17 March 1921. They lived near Bassfield, Mississippi, where Mr. Bass engaged in farming and miscellaneous work until his death on 19 August 1947. Burial was in the old Stephen H. Wilkes graveyard. The following were born to this family:

Syble Montecal Bass, born 27 Sept. 1925
Edward Allen Bass, born 27 Nov. 1930

5. LUCY ANN WILKES

LUCY ANN WILKES, daughter of John Ellis and Matilda (Gates) Wilkes, was born in Marion County, Mississippi on 7 September 1869 and died on 9 December 1913, burial was at the graveyard of Fellowship Church, Taylorsville, Mississippi. She married John M. Jones at Raleigh, Mississippi on 7 August 1890. They lived at Mize, Mississippi, where Mr. Jones was a merchant-farmer at the time of his death on 6 April 1911. The following children were born to this couple:

- a. Mittie Jones
- b. Houston Gale Jones, born 9 July 1895; died 6 Aug. 1918
- c. Louie Wayne Jones
- d. Clarence Lefield Jones
- e. Preston Jones, born 4 Sept. 1903; died 18 Aug. 1904
- f. Howard Jones, born 28 Aug. 1907; died 18 Nov. 1909

a. MITTIE JONES, daughter of John M. and Lucy Ann (Wilkes) Jones, was born at Bassfield, Mississippi, on 21 October 1892 and died on 9 December 1913, with burial at Fellowship Church Cemetery at Taylorsville, Mississippi. She married Olyer McAlpin, teacher in public schools and farmer and they were liv-

ABNER WILKES

105

ing at Mize, Mississippi when she died. They had the following issue:

Rupert McAlpin, born 26 Sept. 1910

c. LOUIE WAYNE JONES, son of John M. and Lucy Ann (Wilkes) Jones, was born at Mize, Mississippi on 9 November 1897. He lives at Mize, where he is a butane gas dealer. He married Lillie Forester Smith, daughter of Daniel N. and Elizabeth (Hopkins) Smith, at Raleigh, Mississippi on 8 March 1922. The following children were born to them:

Daniel Estus Jones, born 8 June 1923
Edwin Lloyd Jones, born 20 Oct. 1924

DANIEL ESTUS JONES, at present a resident of Mexico, Missouri, is a veteran of World War II. He served three years in the European Theater; was commissioned a lieutenant in U. S. Army Air Corps; and was discharged on 6 December 1945.

EDWIN LLOYD JONES is a resident of Mize, Mississippi. He is a veteran of World War II with service as a sergeant in the U. S. Army Fifth Hospital in the Pacific Theater; he was discharged on 12 January 1946.

d. CLARENCE LEFIELD JONES, son of John M. and Lucy Ann (Wilkes) Jones, was born at Mize, Mississippi on 4 March 1902. He lives at Mize, where he is a mail carrier and farmer. He married Venus Howell, daughter of John Fleming and Emily (Johnson) Howell, at Mize on 11 April 1926 and they have the following children:

Horace Howell Jones, born 21 Feb. 1931
Harlon Gale Jones, born 9 July 1933
Emily Lou Jones, born 27 Oct. 1942
Amelia Jones, born 25 Oct. 1944

HORACE HOWELL JONES served in the U. S. Air Force from 10 July 1951 to 27 June 1955. He resides at Mize, Mississippi.

HARLON GALE JONES served in the U. S. Air Force from 11 April 1952 to 9 January 1954. He lives at Mize, Mississippi.

6. SUSANNAH WILKES

SUSANNAH WILKES, daughter of John Ellis and Matilda (Gates) Wilkes, was born in Marion County, Mississippi on 5 March 1871. She married John E. Hill and they had the following issue:

- a. Janie Eva Hill
- b. Maude Louise Hill
- c. Gay Hill
- d. Lela Hill

106 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

a. JANIE EVA HILL, daughter of John E. and Susannah (Wilkes) Hill, was born at Columbia, Mississippi on 1 January 1897. She married Albert Benjamin Rayburn at Bassfield, Mississippi on 10 February 1915. They live on Route 1, Columbia, Mississippi, where Mr. Rayburn is farming. The following children have been born to them:

Alberta Rayburn, born 14 Nov. 1915

Frank Rayburn, born 31 Dec. 1916

Earl Rayburn, born 23 Jan. 1919

Eva Rayburn, born June 1920

Floyd Rayburn, born Jan. 1927

Ira Rayburn, born 24 Sept. 1928

7. SALLY VICTORIA WILKES

SALLY VICTORIA WILKES, daughter of John Ellis and Matilda (Gates) Wilkes, was born in Marion County, Mississippi on 30 April 1873. She married Manson Polk in Marion County on 18 August 1895. They lived in Marion County, where Mr. Polk engaged in farming up to the time of his death on 16 April 1946. One child was born of this union:

Minnie Lee Polk

MINNIE LEE POLK, daughter of Manson and Sally Victoria (Wilkes) Polk, was born in Marion County, Mississippi on 6 April 1896. She married Thomas Weatherford in Jefferson Davis County, Mississippi on 19 December 1915. They live at Bassfield, Mississippi, where Mr. Weatherford is farming. They have the following children:

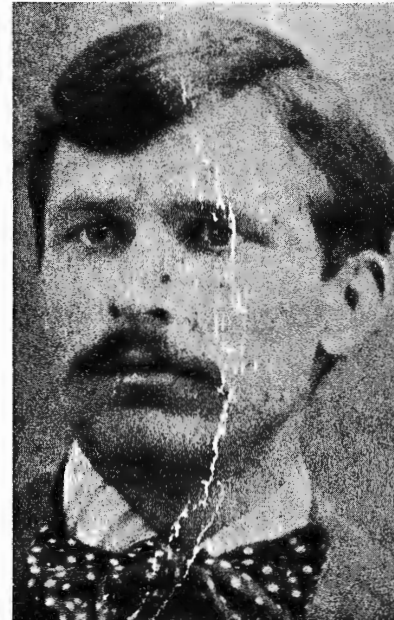
Ruport Weatherford, born 26 Sept. 1916

Leo Weatherford, born 19 Dec. 1917

ABNER WILKES

107

8. LEFFIE ELLIS WILKES



LEFFIE ELLIS WILKES, son of John Ellis and Matilda (Gates) Wilkes, was born near Bassfield, Mississippi on 20 December 1875 and died on 8 July 1933 with burial at the graveyard of Bethel Baptist Church. At the time of his death, Mr. Wilkes lived near Bassfield where he engaged in farming. He married Jeanie Messer at Sumrall, Mississippi on 27 March 1904. The following children were born of this marriage:

- a. William Hyrst Wilkes
- b. Cuma Reth Wilkes
- c. Toxie Allen Wilkes
- d. Hezzie Arthur Wilkes
- e. Thomas Clifford Wilkes

a. WILLIAM HYRST WILKES, son of Leffie Ellis and Jeanie (Messer) Wilkes, was born near Sumrall, Mississippi on 11 December 1904. He lives near Bassfield, Mississippi, where he is a farmer and ginner. He prefers that his family name be spelled "Wilks", but as explained elsewhere to avoid confusion his family name is spelled "Wilkes" throughout this volume. He married Ethel Lois Martin at Sumrall, Mississippi on 19 March 1927. They have no children.

b. CUMA RETH WILKES, daughter of Leffie Ellis and Jeanie (Messer) Wilkes, was born at Sumrall, Mississippi on 17 March 1908. She married Robert Hancock at Natchez, Mississippi on 2 September 1933. They reside at 1141 Pass Road, Gulfport, Mississippi, where Mr. Hancock is retired. They have no children.

c. TOXIE ALLEN WILKES, son of Leffie Ellis and Jeanie (Messer) Wilkes, was born in Covington County, Mississippi on 7 December 1912. He lives at Bassfield, Mississippi and is an employee of the New Orleans Furniture Manufacturing Company,

Pascagoula Public Library
Genealogy & Local History Dept.
Wilkes Family

108 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

Columbia, Mississippi. He married Troy Mae Broome at Bassfield, Mississippi on 10 July 1941, and they have no children.

d. HEZZIE ARTHUR WILKES, son of Leffie Ellis and Jeanie (Messer) Wilkes), was born in Lamar County, Mississippi on 10 December 1914. He resides at 709 Old Mobile Highway, Pascagoula, Mississippi. He is an oiler at the local paper plant. He married Lola Broome in Jefferson Davis County, Mississippi on 17 September 1933 and they have the following issue:

- aa. Peggy Jean Wilkes, born 2 May 1934
- bb. Billy Reese Wilkes, born 26 July 1935
- cc. Jimmie Sue Wilkes, born 3 May 1937
- dd. Leffie Ellis Wilkes, II, born 28 Feb. 1939
- ee. Helen Wilkes, born 28 Aug. 1940
- ff. Hezzie Arthur Wilkes, Jr., born 20 July 1947
- gg. Ronald Lee Wilkes, born 8 Sept. 1949
- hh. Carol Ann Wilkes, born 23 Aug. 1952

aa. PEGGY JEAN WILKES, daughter of Hezzie Arthur and Lola (Broome) Wilkes, was born at Sumrall, Mississippi. She married Robert Edward Howard, Jr. at Pascagoula, Mississippi on 3 June 1951. They live at Kreole, Mississippi, where Mr. Howard is a Baptist minister and part time insurance agent. The following children have been born of this marriage:

- Lola Catherine Howard, born 19 May 1952
- Edward Arthur Howard, born 24 April 1953
- Peggy Sue Howard, born 23 Oct. 1954

bb. BILLY REESE WILKES, son of Hezzie Arthur and Lola (Broome) Wilkes, was born near Bassfield, Mississippi. He has served in the National Guard for five years and lives at Moss Point, Mississippi, where he is an employee of the local paper mill. He married Annette Prevost at Pascagoula, Mississippi on 7 October 1955 and they have no children at this time.

cc. JIMMIE SUE WILKES, daughter of Hezzie Arthur and Lola (Broome) Wilkes, was born near Bassfield, Mississippi. She married Franz Adolph Hanning at Lucedale, Mississippi on 3 June 1953. They live at Kreole, Mississippi, where Mr. Hanning is a seaman with the U. S. Fish and Wildlife service. They have the following children:

- Franz Stephen Hanning, born 28 Jan. 1954
- Mary Susan Hanning, born 13 May 1955
- Jennie Louise Hanning, born 28 Aug. 1956
- Elizabeth Anne Hanning, born 11 Sept. 1957

ABNER WILKES

109

dd. LEFFIE ELLIS WILKES II, son of Hezzie Arthur and Lola (Broome) Wilkes, was born near Bassfield, Mississippi. He served in the National Guard for three years. He lives at Moss Point, Mississippi, where he is a salesman. He married Carolyn Sherry Williams at Lucedale, Mississippi on 17 March 1957 and they have the following issue:

Susanne Arlene Wilkes, born 30 May 1958

e. THOMAS CLIFFORD WILKES, son of Leffie Ellis and Jeanie (Messer) Wilkes, was born in Marion County, Mississippi on 7 November 1922. He spells the family name "Wilks". He lives at Kreole, Mississippi, where he is an electrician at the local paper mill. Mr. Wilkes served in the U. S. Army Air Corps during World War II from 17 October 1942 to 17 February 1946, and saw active service in the Philippine Islands, Saipan, and Iwa Jima. He married Ellen Greene at the Methodist Church at Kreole, Mississippi on 16 June 1946 and the following children were born to them:

- Deborah Ann Wilkes, born 5 Oct. 1947
- Nona Lee Wilkes, born 21 Sept. 1951

9. JENNETTE WILKES

JENNETTE WILKES, daughter of John Ellis and Matilda (Gates) Wilkes, was born near what is now Bassfield, Mississippi on 22 February 1878 and died on 18 January 1949. Burial was at the graveyard of Bethel Baptist Church, about four miles southeast of Bassfield. She married James Archie Whitehead on 7 September 1893 and they lived near Bassfield, where Mr. Whitehead engaged in farming. The following children were born of this marriage:

- a. Edward Gaston Whitehead
- b. John Porter Whitehead
- c. Ida Lee Whitehead
- d. Jesse Barney Whitehead
- e. Pearl Bertha Whitehead
- f. Olis Archie Whitehead
- g. V. O. Whitehead, b. 22 Oct. 1919; killed in battle in Germany on 19 March 1944 while serving in the Fifth Division of the U. S. Army.

a. EDWARD GASTON WHITEHEAD, son of James Archie and Jennette (Wilkes) Whitehead, was born near Bassfield, Mississippi on 22 November 1895. He lives on Route 1, Florence, Mississippi and is a barber. It has been reported that he married at Jonesville, Louisiana on 13 January 1917 and was the father of the following:

- Jo Davis Whitehead
- Elaine Whitehead
- Edward Gaston Whitehead, Jr.

b. JOHN PORTER WHITEHEAD, son of James Archie and

Pascagoula Public Library
Genealogy & Local History Dept.
Wilkes Family

110 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

Jennette (Wilkes) Whitehead, was born near Bassfield, Mississippi, on 15 January 1897. He lived on Route 2, Bassfield and engaged in farming before his death. He was buried at the cemetery of Bethel Baptist Church. He married Tresa Robbin in Marion County, Mississippi on 30 April 1914 and they had the following children:

Kathrine Whitehead	Aline Whitehead
Austin Whitehead	Georgie Whitehead
Portia Whitehead	

c. IDA LEE WHITEHEAD, daughter of James Archie and Jennette (Wilkes) Whitehead, was born near Bassfield, Mississippi on 7 January 1899. She married Jasper Simeon Raybourn at the home of her parents on 1 March 1916. They live on Route 6, Laurel, Mississippi, where Mr. Raybourn is self employed. The following children were born to this family:

Lonnie Levi Raybourn, born 19 Dec. 1916
Jasper Lavelle Raybourn, born 24 Dec. 1918
Willie James Raybourn, born 22 June 1924

d. JESSE BARNEY WHITEHEAD, son of James Archie and Jennette (Wilkes) Whitehead, was born near Bassfield, Mississippi on 29 September 1900. He lives on Route 3, Columbia, Mississippi, where he is farming. He married May Bell Yates, daughter of John and Katie Yates, at Bunker Hill Baptist Church on 29 July 1922 and they have the following children:

Ida Louise Whitehead, born 12 May 1923
Eva Gay Whitehead, born 7 Feb. 1926
Jessie Lavelle Whitehead, born 29 Nov. 1928
Eddie Mae Whitehead, born 11 July 1935
Billy O'Neal Whitehead, born 9 Dec. 1940

e. PEARL BERTHA WHITEHEAD, daughter of James Archie and Jennette (Wilkes) Whitehead, was born near Bassfield, Mississippi on 5 December 1905. She married Monteal McPhail in Jefferson Davis County, Mississippi on 24 January 1924. They live on Route 1, Carson, Mississippi, where Mr. McPhail is farming. The following children have been born of this union:

Walter McPhail, born 28 Nov. 1925
Dorothy McPhail, born 2 Oct. 1927
Nevill McPhail, born 10 Dec. 1929
Leroy McPhail, born 14 Dec. 1931
Thomas McPhail, born 4 May 1933
Otho McPhail, born 15 Oct. 1937
Monteal McPhail, Jr., born 24 Dec. 1939
Ralph Terrell McPhail, born 2 Feb. 1941

ABNER WILKES

111

f. OLIS ARCHIE WHITEHEAD, son of James Archie and Jennette (Wilkes) Whitehead, was born near Bassfield, Mississippi on 18 October 1906. He died at Columbia Hospital, Columbia, Mississippi on 18 April 1937 and was buried at Hickory Grove Baptist Church Cemetery. Previous to his death, Mr. Whitehead engaged in farming. He married Drusilla Patterson in Marion County, Mississippi in October of 1927 and the following were born of this union:

Olga Virginia Whitehead, born 30 May 1930
Wanda Jean Whitehead, born 6 May 1932
James Samuel Whitehead, born 10 Nov. 1934

10. SYRENTHIA WILKES

SYRENTHIA WILKES, daughter of John Ellis and Matilda (Gates) Wilkes, was born in Marion County, Mississippi on 15 August 1880. She married Charles Nobles at Taylorsville, Mississippi. He is self-employed according to best available information. He may be a descendant of Stephen Noble, an early settler of Covington County, Mississippi who was there as early as 1817. The following children have been born to this family:

Ethel Nobles, born 14 March 1900
Stella Nobles, born 2 June 1902
Artis Nobles, born 14 Feb. 1904
Louis Nobles, born 16 April 1905

11. MELVINA WILKES

MELVINA WILKES, daughter of John Ellis and Matilda (Gates) Wilkes, was born in Marion County, Mississippi in 1882. She married James R. Nobles on 9 December 1897 and they had the following issue:

Gathel Ira Nobles, born 28 Jan. 1899
Lelia Mae Nobles, born 15 Sept. 1900
James Ernest Nobles, born 7 Feb. 1902
Nancy Corrine Nobles, born 28 April 1904
Margie Nobles, born 26 March 1907
Nellie Nobles, born 18 March 1909
Easter Nobles, born 16 April 1911
Reid Nobles, born 6 Dec. 1913
Allen Nobles, born 22 Oct. 1916
Roscoe Nobles, born 19 Sept. 1918
Mildred Nobles, born 9 April 1921

12. THOMAS WILKES

THOMAS WILKES, son of John Ellis and Matilda (Gates)

Pascagoula Public Library
Genealogy & Local History Dept.
Wilkes Family

112 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

Wilkes, was born in Marion County, Mississippi on 13 August 1884. He died on 14 January 1964 and was buried in the Lowery family cemetery near Bassfield, Mississippi. Mr. Wilkes, who preferred to spell his family name "Wilks", was a farmer of the Bassfield community. He married Sarah Case at the home of Mr. J. R. Thompson in Marion County on 2 August 1914. She died on 10 September 1910 and was buried in the John Ellis Wilkes family graveyard. The following children were born of this marriage:

- a. Ulus Wilkes, born 21 June 1915
- b. Clifton John Wilkes
- c. Mary Elda Wilkes

Thomas Wilkes married, second, Mary Lowery on 29 October 1911 and they had no children born to them.

b. CLIFTON JOHN WILKES, son of Thomas and Sarah (Case) Wilkes, was born near Bassfield, Mississippi on 13 August 1916. He is a machinist by trade and lives in Fort Worth, Texas. He prefers "Wilks" as the spelling of his family name. He is a veteran of World War II with service in the U. S. Navy from 6 November 1943 to 30 November 1955. He was a fireman first class and saw service in the South Pacific. He married Myrtle Lorraine Brown at Jackson, Mississippi on 21 March 1952 and they have the following issue:

Sharla Gail Wilkes, born 4 Dec. 1952

c. MARY ELDA WILKES, daughter of Thomas and Sarah (Case) Wilkes, was born near Bassfield, Mississippi on 26 May 1923. She married Samuel Franklin Bass at Sumrall, Mississippi on September 1947 and they had no issue. She married, second, Roscoe Moore at Sanford, Mississippi and they reside at 618 South 18th Avenue, Hattiesburg, Mississippi. Mr. Moore owns the Roscoe Moore Pontiac Company. They have the following children:

- Patricia Ann Moore, born 19 July 1951
- Paula Lynn Moore, born 25 Aug. 1957

13. PEARLIE LEE WILKES

PEARLIE LEE WILKES, daughter of John Ellis and Matilda (Gates) Wilkes, was born in Marion County, Mississippi on 1 July 1888. She married William Edward Fortenberry in Marion County on 1 October 1912 and they live on Route 2, Sumrall, Mississippi, where Mr. Fortenberry is farming. The following children have been born of this union:

- a. Virgie Mae Fortenberry
- b. Loamie Edward Fortenberry
- c. Eddie Rue Fortenberry
- d. John Lamar Fortenberry

a. VIRGIE MAE FORTENBERRY, daughter of William Ed-

ABNER WILKES

113

ward and Pearlle Lee (Wilkes) Fortenberry, was born at Bassfield, Mississippi. She married Cicero Gore in April 1925 and they have a son:

aa. Revie Lee Gore

She married, second, Laban H. Smith at Hattiesburg, Mississippi on 24 December 1941. They live on Route 2, Sumrall, Mississippi, where Mr. Smith engages in carpentry.

aa. REVIE LEE GORE, son of Cicero and Virgie Mae (Fortenberry) Gore, was born on 26 May 1929. He married Allyne Rayborn at Sumrall, Mississippi on 4 February 1948. He married, second, Virginia Fay Ferguson on 24 December 1958. They reside at Pascagoula, Mississippi. No children were born of the second marriage. The following were born of the first marriage:

Karen Lynn Gore, born 26 Dec. 1949

Stephen Keith Gore, born 10 Aug. 1953

b. LOAMIE EDWARD FORTENBERRY, son of William Edward and Pearlle Lee (Wilkes) Fortenberry, was born at Bassfield, Mississippi on 27 January 1916. He lives on Route 2, Sumrall, Mississippi, where he is farming. He married Elva Letchworth at Sumrall on 17 December 1945 and they had the following children:

William Terrell Fortenberry, born 28 Oct. 1946

Johnnie Alford Fortenberry, born 25 Oct. 1950

Loamie Edward Fortenberry, Jr., born 7 Feb. 1955

Lyod Bruce Fortenberry, born 16 Sept. 1957

c. EDDIE RUE FORTENBERRY, daughter of William Edward and Pearlle Lee (Wilkes) Fortenberry, was born at Bassfield, Mississippi on 10 February 1918. She married Garland D. Sasser at Long Beach, Mississippi on 23 March 1944. She died on 12 January 1954 and was buried at the graveyard of Hickory Grove Baptist Church near Sumrall, Mississippi. They had the following issue:

Betty Sasser, born 8 July 1948

d. DR. JOHN LAMAR FORTENBERRY, son of William Edward and Pearlle Lee (Wilkes) Fortenberry, was born near Sumrall, Mississippi on 11 September 1922. He is a teacher by profession, and at present is in charge of the Negro education program for the State of Mississippi. His title is: State Co-ordinator of Negro Education, Department of Education, State of Mississippi, Jackson, Mississippi. He has been in this position since 1956, prior to that time he served as principal in the public schools of Mississippi, and was on the faculty of the University of Mississippi.

Dr. Fortenberry holds a doctorate from the University of Mississippi, a master's from Mississippi Southern College, and a bache-

Pascagoula Public Library
Genealogy & Local History Dept.
Wilkes Family

114 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

lor's degree from Southeastern Louisiana College. In addition, Dr. Fortenberry has attended the following colleges and universities: Northwestern Louisiana, Louisiana State University, University of Georgia, Rennselear Polytechnic Institute, and Columbia University.

Dr. Fortenberry is a veteran of World War II. He spent five years in naval aviation and upon release to inactive duty affiliated with an organized naval reserve unit. At the present time (1959), he is a member of Squadron VR-821, which is stationed at Alvin Callender Field, New Orleans, Louisiana, and is squadron navigator with the rank of lieutenant-commander.

14. QUITMAN WILKES

QUITMAN WILKES, son of John Ellis and Matilda (Gates) Wilkes, was born in Marion County, Mississippi. He lives on Route 2, Bassfield, Mississippi, where he is farming. He married Leona Sanders in Marion County on 4 July 1914 and they have the following children:

- a. Vera Wilkes, born 16 April 1915
- b. Hazel Wilkes
- c. Reggie Wilkes, born 8 Jan. 1926

a. VERA WILKES, daughter of Quitman and Leona (Sanders) Wilkes, was born at Bassfield, Mississippi. She married Roy Windham at Prentiss, Mississippi on 27 October 1933. They live at Bassfield, where Mr. Windham engages in farming and carpentry. They have the following issue:

Ross Pitmon Windham, born 3 April 1935

b. HAZEL WILKES, daughter of Quitman and Leona (Sanders) Wilkes, was born in Marion County, Mississippi. She married Cassie Broome at Goss, Mississippi on 21 March 1951. They live at Bassfield, Mississippi, where Mr. Broome is farming.

c. REGGIE WILKES, son of Quitman and Leona (Sanders) Wilkes, was born at Bassfield, Mississippi on 8 January 1926. He lives at Waverly, Ohio, where he is engaged in plumbing work. He married Undine Clark at Jackson, Mississippi and they have the following children:

- Charlotte D. Wilkes, born 24 Dec. 1948
Danna M. Wilkes, born 13 June 1952
Patre Asher D. Wilkes, born 9 Nov. 1955

E. ELIZA ANN WILKES

ELIZA ANN WILKES, daughter of Stephen Hitchcock and Mary (McNeese) Wilkes, was born near what is now Bunker Hill,

ABNER WILKES

115

Marion County, Mississippi on 20 May 1829 and died on 8 February 1909, burial was at the Beauregard Cemetery, Beauregard, Mississippi. She married John Philomon Terrell at the home of her parents at Wilkesburg, Mississippi on 24 September 1846. They lived in Covington County, Mississippi for some years where Mr. Terrell farmed. Later they lived at Beauregard, Mississippi, where Mr. Terrell was a merchant-farmer before moving to Arkansas where he died in 1863. The family didn't consider it safe for a widow and children to live alone in Arkansas so they were brought back to Mississippi and the children placed in the homes of the brothers of their father. Susanna went to live with her Uncle Sam Terrell; Texanna joined the family of Vernon L. Terrell in Hinds County; Sarah E. and John Stephen went with Jasper Terrell in Covington County; Luella lived in Arkansas with two sisters of her father until about 1872, when she joined her sisters in Mississippi. Mr. Terrell's father was also named John Philomon, and he was a private in Captain Spencer's Company of the Thirteenth Mississippi Territory Militia in the War of 1812. The following children were born to this family:

1. Mary Elizabeth Terrell
2. Susanna Malissa Terrell
3. Nancy Adeline Terrell, b. 25 Dec. 1850; d. 14 April 1857
4. Sarah Eliza Terrell
5. Texanna Tranquilla Terrell
6. John Philomon Terrell, Jr.
7. Luella Lodealy Terrell
8. Jasper Wilkes Terrell, b. 12 Aug. 1859; d. 29 Aug. 1867

1. MARY ELIZABETH TERRELL

MARY ELIZABETH TERRELL, daughter of John Philomon and Eliza Ann (Wilkes) Terrell, was born in Covington County, Mississippi on 4 December 1847. She married J. Frank French on 25 January 1866 and they lived in Arkansas. She and a baby daughter died on 11 November 1866.

2. SUSANNA MALISSA TERRELL

SUSANNA MALISSA TERRELL, daughter of John Philomon and Eliza Ann (Wilkes) Terrell, was born in Covington County, Mississippi on 2 September 1849 and died on 15 April 1921 at her home in Wesson, Mississippi, burial was at Beauregard, Mississippi. She married George Green Holloway at Mount Carmel, Mississippi on 3 September 1872. They lived at Mount Carmel, where Mr. Holloway engaged in farming. No children were born of this union.

4. SARAH ELIZA TERRELL

SARAH ELIZA TERRELL, daughter of John Philomon and Eliza Ann (Wilkes) Terrell, was born in Covington County, Missis-

Pascagoula Public Library
Genealogy & Local History Dept.
Wilkes Family

116 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

ssippi on 17 June 1852. She married Daniel McAfee McRaney at Mount Carmel, Mississippi on 22 July 1874 and they lived in Covington and Copiah counties, Mississippi, where Mr. McRaney farmed. She died on 6 June 1920 and was buried at Bogue Chitto, Mississippi. The following children were born of this union:

- a. Anna Jasper McRaney, born 9 May 1875
- b. Louise Floyd McRaney
- c. John Philomon McRaney, b. 3 Feb. 1880; d. 22 May 1881
- d. Little McAfee McRaney, b. 18 May 1882; d. 6 June 1951
- e. Texie Ruth McRaney
- f. Sue Terrell McRaney
- g. Mamie E. McRaney
- h. Infant son, b. 13 July 1894; d. 14 July 1894
- i. Lottie B. McRaney

b. LOUISE FLOYD McRANEY, daughter of Daniel McAfee and Sarah Eliza (Terrell) McRaney, was born in Covington County, Mississippi on 8 February 1878 and died on 4 May 1959. She married Achilles Bennett Connally at Bogue Chitto, Mississippi on 27 April 1909. They resided at 807 South Grand Street, Monroe, Louisiana, where Mr. Connally was in the restaurant business. No children were born of this union:

e. TEXIE RUTH McRANEY, daughter of Daniel McAfee and Sarah Eliza (Terrell) McRaney, was born at Beauregard, Mississippi on 3 March 1885. She married Dr. John Sterling Moore at Bogue Chitto, Mississippi on 21 September 1920. Dr. Moore received a degree in medicine at Memphis, Tennessee on 25 April 1902 and was in general practice of medicine at Magnolia, Mississippi when he died on 17 February 1929, burial was at Magnolia. Mrs. Moore died on 6 January 1951 and was buried beside her husband. No children were born to this couple.

f. SUE TERRELL McRANEY, daughter of Daniel McAfee and Sarah Eliza (Terrell) McRaney, was born at Beauregard, Mississippi on 8 August 1888. She married Alvin West Noland at Bogue Chitto, Mississippi on 28 November 1918. They live at Bogue Chitto, where Mr. Noland is a retired traveling salesman. They had the following children born to them:

- Alvin West Noland, Jr., b. 22 Aug. 1919; d. 29 Oct. 1936
- Sue LaVerne Noland, born 12 Aug. 1921
- Julian Moore Noland, born 9 Feb. 1925

g. MAMIE E. McRANEY, daughter of Daniel McAfee and Sarah Eliza (Terrell) McRaney, was born at Beauregard, Mississippi on 10 Feb. 1892. She married William Arland Hays of Bloom-

ABNER WILKES

117

ington, Indiana at Bogue Chitto, Mississippi on 14 July 1925. They lived at Bogue Chitto until Mr. Hays' death on 2 May 1946, and Mrs. Hays resides there now. One child was born to this family:

William Arland Hays, Jr., born 22 June 1929

i. LOTTIE B. McRANEY, daughter of Daniel McAfee and Sarah Eliza (Terrell) McRaney, was born at Beauregard, Mississippi on 21 April 1896. She married Willard McKendree Mitchell of Ponchatoula, Louisiana, at Bogue Chitto, Mississippi on 20 December 1920. They live at Ponchatoula, where Mr. Mitchell is in vegetable, fruit, insurance and mercantile business. They have the following issue:

Willard McRaney Mitchell, born 15 Nov. 1921-

WILLARD McRANEY MITCHELL was born at Magnolia, Mississippi. He is a veteran of World War II, unmarried, and lives with his parents and is in business with his father.

5. TEXANNA TRANQUILLA TERRELL

TEXANNA TRANQUILLA TERRELL, daughter of John Philomon and Eliza Ann (Wilkes) Terrell, was born in Covington County, Mississippi on 11 August 1854 and died at Jackson, Mississippi on 24 July 1941, burial was from the First Baptist Church, with her pastor, Dr. W. A. Hewitt, conducting the services; interment was in Cedarlawn Cemetery, Jackson. She married William Jennings Davis on 25 September 1874 at Dry Grove, Mississippi, where she made her home with her uncle, Vernon L. Terrell, and his wife. At that time, Mr. Davis was clerking for Mr. Terrell in the latter's store. Shortly thereafter they moved to Terry, Mississippi, where Mr. Davis owned and operated a general merchandising store for more than 40 years and was very successful. In 1903, Mr. Davis bought a home in Jackson, Mississippi at 640 North State Street. They moved into this colonial mansion shortly after its purchase, and it was here that "Cousin Texie" entertained in the manner of the Old South. Mr. Davis died on 9 June 1916 at which time he was still part owner of the Terry store that was operated as J. W. Grantham and Company and, with his son, owned and operated near Jackson the LaVernet Stock Farm, home of "Point Comfort XIV", the famous Hereford bull that took many blue ribbons at state fairs. In addition to this stock farm, Mr. Davis owned several farms in Hinds County. This Jackson farm is now the Jackson Airport. In Smith Park, Jackson, is a marble fountain memorial to Mr. Davis. The following children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Davis.

- a. Lida Terrell Davis, b. 11 Sept. 1875; d. 27 Nov. 1879

Pascagoula Public Library
Genealogy & Local History Dept.
Wilkes Family

118 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

- b. Vernon Terrell Davis
- c. William J. Davis, Jr., b. 19 June 1887; d. 19 Jan. 1890
- d. Laperle Davis

b. VERNON TERRELL DAVIS, son of William Jennings and Texanna Tranquilla (Terrell) Davis, was born at Terry, Mississippi on 23 September 1881 and died at Jackson, Mississippi. He lived in Jackson, Mississippi, where he was a cotton dealer and, with his father, operated the LaVernet Stock Farm. He married Garnet Barton, daughter of S. C. and Bell C. Barton, at Jackson, Mississippi on 14 October 1906.

d. LAPERLE DAVIS, daughter of William Jennings and Texanna Tranquilla (Terrell) Davis, was born at Terry, Mississippi on 12 March 1890. She married Lawrie Marion Gaddis at Jackson, Mississippi and they live on Clinton Boulevard. Mr. Gaddis was a banker, president of the Jackson State National Bank. They have no children of their own but have an adopted son:

John Gaddis

6. JOHN PHILOMON TERRELL, JR.

JOHN PHILOMON TERRELL, JR., son of John Philomon and Eliza Ann (Wilkes) Terrell, was born in Covington County, Mississippi on 15 November 1855. He was a casualty of the cyclone that killed and maimed hundreds of people and destroyed much property at Beauregard, Mississippi and vicinity on 22 April 1883. He was buried at the Terrell Cemetery, west of Collins, Mississippi. He married Eliza Jane (Durr) Terrell, widow of his uncle Samuel Terrell, and they had the following issue:

- a. John Jasper Terrell
- b. Roscoe Lamar Terrell

a. JOHN JASPER TERRELL, son of John Philomon, Jr. and Eliza Ann (Durr) Terrell, was born at Beauregard, Mississippi on 11 December 1881. He died at Wiggins, Mississippi on 10 January 1941 and was buried at Jackson, Mississippi. He was a lumberman, and retired at the time of his death. He married Anna Jane Kelly at Ora, Mississippi on 21 September 1904 and they had the following:

Clara Louise Terrell, born 15 June 1905
Mary Willing Terrell, born 21 Sept. 1908
John Lamar Terrell, born 9 March 1911
Elizabeth Durr Terrell, born 13 Feb. 1915

7. LUELLA LODEALY TERRELL

LUELLA LODEALY TERRELL, daughter of John Philomon and Eliza Ann (Wilkes) Terrell, was born in Covington County,

ABNER WILKES

Mississippi on 1 May 1857 and died on 16 September 1901, buried at Terry, Mississippi. After the death of her father in Arkansas she lived with her married sisters until she married Eugene Halbert at Jackson, Mississippi. They lived at Grenada, Mississippi where Mr. Halbert was the agent of the American Express Company. The following children were born of this marriage:

- a. Marie Halbert
- b. Fannie Halbert
- c. Eugenia Halbert
- d. William Judson Halbert
- e. Joshua Halbert

e. JOSHUA HALBERT, son of Eugene and Luella Lodea (Terrell) Halbert, was born at Grenada, Mississippi on 4 October 1893. He is unmarried and resides at 3905 Greaves Street, Jackson, Mississippi, where he is City Engineer and Director of Public Works. He entered the engineering department at City Hall on 1 June 1914 and became City Engineer on 21 April 1928 and has continued in that office to the present time.

During his work as city engineer, his penchant for design has led him to many unusual tasks, from the scenic flower garden at City Hall to the spacious Jackson Zoo. Streets, bridges, buildings and neighborhoods which have sprung up in orderly fashion have had their creation on Josh's drawing board and in his lively imagination. His most satisfactory effort, he says, is to see the fruition of years of planning reflected in the city's remarkable growth.

He graduated from Central High School in Jackson and then went to Washington and Lee University where he obtained his B.S. degree in 1914. He was a captain in the U. S. Army Engineer Corps during World War I, with 18 months overseas duty, mostly construction work around Bordeaux, France. He is a good churchman and a deacon of the First Baptist Church and is the secretary of his Sunday School class.

In 1915, Halbert received the Samuel A. Greeley Service Award presented by the American Public Works Association of which he is past state chairman. He founded the University Club of Jackson.

In 1948, he received a special certificate from Mayor Lelan Speed, who proclaimed April third of that year as "Josh Halbert Day" in Jackson. In 1956 a Jackson newspaper presented him with the General Jackson citation.

He is a member of the Mississippi Society of Professional Engineers; the Urban Land Institute; the American Roadbuilders; the Jackson Chamber of Commerce; and the American Institute of Park Executives.

Pascagoula Public Library
Genealogy & Local History Dept.
Wilkes Family

120 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

F. FRANCIS WILKES

FRANCIS WILKES, son of Stephen Hitchcock and Mary (McNeese) Wilkes, was born in Marion County, Mississippi, on 1 June 1831 and died of scarlet fever on 14 January 1860. Burial was in the old Wilkes family graveyard at Wilkesburg, Mississippi. He married Sarah Ann May, daughter of Judge William and Elizabeth May of Simpson County, Mississippi.

He was a member of Ebenezer Baptist Church, where he was baptized on 4 August 1856. His wife was born on 1 January 1842 and she and baby died in childbirth on 2 September 1858. Mr. Wilkes was a farmer of Marion County, Mississippi at the time of his death. His parents gave him 40 acres of land on Holidays Creek in 1854, and he added to that by purchase from the government of 160 acres.

G. NANCY ANN WILKES

NANCY ANN WILKES, daughter of Stephen Hitchcock and Mary (McNeese) Wilkes, was born in Marion County, Mississippi on 18 May 1833 and died at Harrisville, Simpson County, Mississippi on 8 October 1870. She was the first person to be buried at the Banks family graveyard, about two miles west of Pinola, Mississippi. She married Charles Bigley Banks at Westville, Simpson County on 2 December 1848. He was a son of Levi and Mary Elizabeth (Alexander) Banks, who were married in Franklin County, Georgia on 31 December 1807. Mr. Levi Banks was one of the earliest settlers of what is now Lawrence County, Mississippi, where he served in Captain M. Runnell's Company of the Thirteenth Mississippi Territory Infantry during the War of 1812⁵³. After the formation of Simpson County in 1824 from lands obtained from the Choctaw Indians in the cession of 1820 he moved to that county and remained there the rest of his life.

After their marriage Nancy Ann and her husband lived at old Westville, Simpson County, where Mr. Banks was one of the better known citizens. He was a merchant-farmer and owned many slaves before their emancipation. He was a Confederate veteran, having enlisted in Simpson County on 30 April 1862. He served as second lieutenant in Company B of the 16th Mississippi Infantry and as captain of Company F (Pearl River Guards) of the 39th Mississippi Infantry, Confederate States Army. His command post was captured at Port Hudson but he managed to escape and reported back to his command after a short period of duty with General Joseph

53. Muster Roll certified March 1815

ABNER WILKES

121

E. Johnston. He was surrendered at Citronelle, Alabama on 4 May 1865 by General R. Taylor, CSA. to Major General Canby, USA and was paroled at Jackson, Mississippi on 20 May 1865. Captain Banks was the sheriff and tax collector of Simpson County for several years. He was a prominent Mason and a member of Westville Baptist Church. He died in 1902 and was buried at the family graveyard. The following children were born of this union:

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. William Osmund Banks | 2. Mary Elizabeth Banks |
| 3. Walter Owen Banks | 4. Fannie Jane Banks |
| 5. James Daniel Banks | 6. Frank Wilkes Banks |
| 7. Arminta Emaline Banks | 8. Charles Burke Banks |
| 9. Benjamin Lee Banks | |

1. WILLIAM OSMUND BANKS

WILLIAM OSMUND BANKS, son of Charles Bigley and Nancy Ann (Wilkes) Banks, was born at old Westville, Simpson County, Mississippi on 12 June 1850 and died on 12 January 1919. Burial was at Silsbee, Texas. When about twenty years of age Mr. Banks went to Texas and joined the Texas Border Patrol, later he was sheriff of his county. He married Sarah Aivia Pickering, daughter of Andrew Jackson and Jane Pickering, at Woodville, Texas in the year 1885. Following his marriage, Mr. Banks was a timber inspector for the Houston Oil Company, and in addition he operated a furniture store and a farm and owned several pieces of real estate. Mr. Banks drew the map for the town of Woodrow, Texas and was responsible for getting a post office established there, however it has long since been discontinued and its mail is handled from the town of Silsbee. The following children were born of this marriage:

- | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| a. Fannie Banks | b. Aivia Violet Banks |
| c. Charles Cook Banks | d. Daniel David Banks |
| e. Arminta Osmund Banks | f. Lillie Olivia Banks |
| g. Bennie Lee Banks | h. Mary Sarah Banks |
| i. Annie Lorene Banks | j. Grace Ivy Banks |

a. FANNIE BANKS, daughter of William Osmund and Sarah Aivia (Pickering) Banks, was born in Tyler County, Texas, on 21 April 1887. She married Alexander Banks, a railroad worker, at Woodville, Texas on 23 March 1907 and they had the following issue:

Bessie Inez Banks, born 5 Feb. 1908
Stella Mary Banks, born 30 Nov. 1909
William Osmund Banks, born 24 Feb. 1912

Pascagoula Public Library
Genealogy & Local History Dept.
Wilkes Family

122 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

Fannie Banks married, second, John J. McNamarra of New York State at Silsbee, Texas, on 13 November 1913. Mr. McNamarra was an oil field worker and died at Oil City, Louisiana on 7 May 1931. Burial was in Oil City. They had the following children born to them:

- John Daniel McNamarra, born 24 Feb. 1915
- Thomas Clark McNamarra, born 22 Feb. 1920
- William Patrick McNamarra, born 15 April 1923
- Sarah Aivia McNamarra, born 25 June 1926

All of Fannie Bank's sons had military service in World War II.

b. AIVIA VIOLET BANKS, daughter of William Osmund and Sarah Aivia (Pickering) Banks, was born at Henderson, Texas on 5 February 1889 and died of a heart condition at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Harry T. Ranieri, in Galveston, Texas on 10 December 1957. Burial was at the Knipple Cemetery, Silsbee, Texas. She married Albert Peter Cook at Silsbee on 25 December 1907. They lived at Silsbee, where Mr. Cook engaged in farming and cattle raising and Mrs. Cook was active in the work of the First Baptist Church. He died at the John Seely Hospital, Galveston, Texas 10 Sept. 1960 and was buried alongside his wife in Silsbee, Texas. The following children were born of this union:

- aa. Albert Banks Cook, born 4 May 1909
- bb. Eugenia Cook, born 6 Feb. 1911
- cc. Irene Cook, born 6 Feb. 1911
- dd. Aivia Beulah Cook, born 17 May 1912
- ee. Clark Williard Cook, b. 6 June 1916; d. 10 Jan. 1925
- ff. David French Cook, born 11 March 1917
- gg. Chester Edwin Cook, born 25 Dec. 1921
- hh. Sarah Elizabeth Cook, born 13 Sept. 1930

cc. IRENE ("BOBS") COOK, daughter of Albert Peter and Aivia Violet (Banks) Cook, was born at Silsbee, Texas. She married Robert Worth Pipkin at Houston, Texas, on 13 December 1934. They reside at Baytown, Texas, where Dr. Pipkin is a physician-surgeon. They have the following issue:

Bobby Jean Pipkin

BOBBY JEAN PIPKIN was born at the Memorial Baptist Hospital, Houston, Texas, on 29 March 1936. She married Robert Leslie List of Indianapolis, Indiana, at Trinity Episcopal Church in Baytown, Texas. They have the following issue:

Robert Wimberly List, born 19 Dec. 1960

dd. AIVIA BEULAH COOK, daughter of Albert Peter and Aivia Violet (Banks) Cook, was born at Silsbee, Texas. She mar-

ABNER WILKES

123

ried Harry Ranieri at Beaumont, Texas, on 25 December 1934. They reside at 5227 Avenue O, Galveston, Texas, where Mr. Ranieri is an accountant. They have the following issue:

Aivia Joyce Ranieri, born 9 Oct. 1935

gg. CHESTER EDWIN COOK, son of Albert Peter and Aivia Violet (Banks) Cook, was born at Silsbee, Texas, on 25 December 1921. He resides at 4052 Lovers Lane, Dallas 25, Texas, where he is a medical doctor. He served as a captain in the medical corps of the Army of the United States from February 1951 to February 1953. Dr. Cook married Billie Maxine Jones of Mount Pleasant, Texas, at Dallas, Texas, on 8 September 1945 and they have the following children:

Lawrence Peter Cook, born 19 Sept. 1950

Celia Maxine Cook, born 1 Feb. 1953

c. CHARLES COOK BANKS, son of William Osmund and Sarah Aivia (Pickering) Banks, lived at Silsbee, Texas, where he was a retired carman of the Santa Fe railroad with 28 years service. He was a past-noble of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Blue Bonnet Lodge #79. He was a member of the First Baptist Church of Silsbee. Mr. Banks died in the Santa Fe Hospital, Temple, Texas, on 21 March 1960 and was buried at Silsbee. He was married, but further information of his family has not been obtained.

e. ARMINTA OSMUND BANKS, daughter of William Osmund and Sarah Aivia (Pickering) Banks, was born at Colmesneil, Texas, on 8 November 1896. She married Chester Farley McClellen at Silsbee, Texas, on February 15, 1916. After their marriage they lived in Houston, Texas, where Mr. McClellen was a carpenter and died 29 April 1958. Mrs. McClellen lives at 6313 Texarkana Avenue, Houston 20, Texas. They had the following issue:

- aa. Clifford Franklin McClellen, born 17 Feb. 1917
- bb. Chester Edwin McClellen, born 24 Sept. 1918
- cc. Joseph Dudley McClellen, born 27 May 1924

aa. CLIFFORD FRANKLIN MCCLELLEN, was born at Keney, Texas. He finished high school at Silsbee, Texas. He is a veteran of World War II with service 1942 to 1946 in the U. S. Army Engineer Corps and was discharged in the rating of technician, fifth grade. He also served in the Ninth U. S. Infantry from August 1937 to 1940.

bb. CHESTER EDWIN MCCLELLEN was born in San Antonio, Texas. He served in the United States Army from 31 August 1938 to 30 August 1941 and was discharged as a staff sergeant. He entered the U. S. Navy at San Diego, California, on 1 June 1944.

Pascagoula Public Library
Genealogy & Local History Dept.
Wilkes Family

124 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

and was discharged 24 September 1945.

cc. JOSEPH DUDLEY McCLELLEN was born at Silsbee, Texas and attended grade and high school there. He is a veteran of World War II, having entered the U. S. Navy at San Diego, California, on 4 April 1943 and served aboard the USS *Haywood* and USS *Rebel* in the Pacific. He was honorably discharged as a coxswain on 4 December 1945.

f. LILLIE OLIVIA BANKS, daughter of William Osmund and Sarah Aivia (Pickering) Banks, was born at Warren, Texas, on 10 March 1898. She married John Miles Mattingly, Jr. at Silsbee, Texas, on 15 February 1916. They live at 1103 East Fayle Street, Baytown, Texas, where Mr. Mattingly is a building contractor. They have the following children:

- aa. Augusta Wallace Mattingly
- bb. Winifred Elaine Mattingly
- cc. John Miles Mattingly, III

aa. AUGUSTA WALLACE MATTINGLY was born at Ashland, Texas, on 3 October 1917. He resides at Mont Bellvieu, Texas, where he is in oil refinery work. He is a veteran of World War II, having entered military service 10 October 1941. He trained at Camp Roberts from October 1941 to 22 April 1942. He was attached to Company C of the 116th Engineers Battalion and took part in the campaigns of New Guinea, Papua, Philippines, Mindanao, Biak, Dutch New Guinea, Hollandia and was discharged as a staff sergeant at San Antonio, Texas, on 31 October 1945. He married Wilma Sothorn Barber. They died in a fire in their large colonial style home in 1962.

bb. WINIFRED ELAINE MATTINGLY was born at Longview, Texas, on 23 September 1919. She married Andrew Vincin and they have one child:

Miles Anthony Vincin, born 2 February 1951

cc. JOHN MILES MATTINGLY, III was born at Lufkin, Texas, on 29 December 1925. He resides at 11614 Art Street, Houston, Texas, where he is in the mercantile business. He is a veteran of World War II with service in the U. S. Army Air Corps. He married Ruby King at Baytown, Texas, and they have the following children:

Thomas Jay Mattingly, born 25 Jan. 1954

Robert Stephen Mattingly, born 21 April 1957

Robin Lee Mattingly, born 23 Dec. 1957

g. BENNIE LEE BANKS, daughter of William Osmund and Sarah Aivia (Pickering) Banks, was born at Warren, Tyler Coun-

ABNER WILKES

125

ty, Texas, on 14 May 1900. She taught in the public schools of Arkansas and Texas for several years, but later gave up this work to give full time to the care of the home and family when they moved to Baytown, Texas, where they reside at 210 Park Avenue. She married William Earl Johnson at Wascomb, Texas on 5 May 1935, and Mr. Johnson is an electrician. They have the following issue:

Bennie Lee Johnson

BENNIE LEE JOHNSON was born in Shreveport, Louisiana on 31 December 1937. She was an honor student at Robert E. Lee High School and Lee Junior College of Baytown. She was awarded a scholarship by the University of Texas and majored in chemistry and graduated in June of 1959. She married Theodore Curtis Shields of Houston, Texas at St. John's Presbyterian Church of Bellaire, Texas on 23 April 1961. Mr. Shields was graduated from Lamar High School in Houston and obtained his B. S. degree in chemistry from Texas A. and M. College, June 1962. He has a fellowship to University of Texas and will work there for a doctorate. They reside in Lake Charles, Louisiana, where both are employed at the Cities Service research and development laboratories in that city.

j. GRACE IVY BANKS, daughter of William Osmund and Sarah Aivia (Pickering) Banks, was born in Warren, Texas. She married Hal Tucker Burrows at Silsbee, Texas on 19 September 1953.

2. MARY ELIZABETH BANKS

MARY ELIZABETH BANKS, daughter of Charles Bigley and Nancy Ann (Wilkes) Banks, was born at old Westville, Simpson County, Mississippi on 24 June 1853 and died on 8 January 1937. Burial was at Mendenhall, Mississippi. She married John Filmore Gibson (born 7 Jan. 1850; died 15 Oct. 1910); and they lived at Mendenhall, where Mr. Gibson engaged in farming and cattle raising. The following children were born of this marriage:

- a. Lewis Murray Gibson, b. 6 Nov. 1875; d. unmarried ca. 1897
- b. Charles Thomas Gibson, b. 25 April 1885; d. 8 Aug. 1885
- c. Zack Levi Gibson
- d. Mary Frances Gibson
- e. James George Gibson
- f. Charles Banks Gibson
- g. John Ford Gibson

c. ZACK LEVI GIBSON, son of John Filmore and Mary Elizabeth (Banks) Gibson, was born on 26 September 1886 and died on 18 December 1958. He married Mildred Rachelle English of Copiah County, Mississippi on 29 December 1922. They lived at

Pascagoula Public Library
Genealogy & Local History Dept.
Wilkes Family

126 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

Mendenhall, Mississippi, where Mr. Gibson engaged in farming and was the local postmaster. The following children were born of this union:

Zack Levi Gibson, Jr., born 28 Sept. 1923

James A. Gibson, born 1 Sept. 1925

Patsy Jean Gibson, born 28 Aug. 1929

Mary Nelle Gibson, born 25 Feb. 1936

e. JAMES GEORGE GIBSON, son of John Filmore and Mary Elizabeth (Banks) Gibson, was born on 23 April 1891 and died on 8 April 1940. He married Leona Womack of Jasper, Texas on 4 July 1914. They lived at Mendenhall, Mississippi, where Mr. Gibson engaged in farming and cattle raising. The following children were born to this couple:

Beatrice Gibson, born 4 April 1916

Charles Edward Gibson, born 23 June 1918

f. CHARLES BANKS GIBSON, son of John Filmore and Mary Elizabeth (Banks) Gibson, was born on 14 September 1893. He resides at Mendenhall, Mississippi and Jackson, Mississippi, where he is a railroad employee. He married, first, Ruby Slany of Hinds County, Mississippi, from whom he was divorced without issue. He married, second, Mary Lee Canby of Simpson County, Mississippi. She died on 4 January 1955 without issue.

g. JOHN FORD GIBSON, son of John Filmore and Mary Elizabeth (Banks) Gibson, was born on 27 March 1897 and died on 27 February 1954. He married Maggie Mae Albritton of Simpson County, Mississippi on 23 July 1927. They lived at D'Lo, Mississippi, where Mr. Gibson was a teacher in the public school. They had the following issue:

Lewis Carroll Gibson, born 24 Jan. 1941

3. WALTER OWEN BANKS

WALTER OWEN BANKS, son of Charles Bigley and Nancy Ann (Wilkes) Banks, was born at old Westville, Simpson County, Mississippi, on 25 March 1855 and died on 16 April 1878. Burial was at the Banks family graveyard near Pinola, Mississippi. His memorial is inscribed as follows: "Just in the morning of his day, in youth and love he died". He married Emma Quinn on 9 January 1878 and they had a daughter, Walter (Banksie) Banks, who married Luthur Upton, Baptist minister.

4. FANNIE JANE BANKS

FANNIE JANE BANKS, daughter of Charles Bigley and Nancy Ann (Wilkes) Banks, was born at old Westville, Mississippi on

ABNER WILKES

127

1 January 1857 and died on 4 May 1941, burial was in the Banks family graveyard near Pinola, Mississippi. She married Absolom Hulon Brown at the home of her parents on 14 December 1879. They lived at Mendenhall, Mississippi, where Mr. Brown engaged in farming. The following children were born of this union:

Arminta Brown, born 4 Oct. 1880

Charles Bailey Brown, born 19 Jan. 1882

Barnie Perdon Brown, born 25 Oct. 1883

Mary Jane Brown, born 16 Dec. 1885

Maggie Lelah Brown, born 25 Aug. 1887

Carrie Bell Brown, born 11 Feb. 1889

Frank Wilkes Brown, born 5 Dec. 1890

Burke Jones Brown, born 28 Jan. 1893

Lee Brooks Brown, born 5 Sept. 1895

Hulon Banks Brown, born 24 March 1897

Nora Alberta Brown, born 28 Dec. 1900

Lillian Fannie Brown, born 17 June 1903

5. JAMES DANIEL BANKS

JAMES DANIEL BANKS, son of Charles Bigley and Nancy Ann (Wilkes) Banks, was born at old Westville, Simpson County, Mississippi on 7 July 1858 and died at Kirbyville, Texas on 5 July 1926. Burial was at Kirbyville. When about thirty years of age, Mr. Banks went to Texas and there married Lilly Gerald, daughter of Samuel H. and Laura (Hough) Gerald on 3 December 1891. Mr. Banks was a 32nd degree Mason and a man of sterling character. He was especially interested in the education of the youth and saw to it that his children, with one exception, obtained a college education. He was president of the local school board for many years and was County Commissioner for his county. One daughter teaches in the University of Honolulu and another teaches English in Kirbyville High School. Mr. Banks was associated with the Houston Oil Company as chief inspector. The following children were born to this family:

Henry Kirby Banks, born 21 Oct. 1892

Reba Elizabeth Banks, born 7 Aug. 1894

Wolta Marge Banks, born 19 Aug. 1896

Robert Stephen Banks, born 7 July 1898

Dorahle Banks, born 6 Aug. 1900

Laurah Annie Banks, born 3 Aug. 1902

James Daniel Banks, Jr., born 5 Dec. 1909

Pascagoula Public Library
Genealogy & Local History Dept.
Wilkes Family

128 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

6. FRANK WILKES BANKS

FRANK WILKES BANKS, son of Charles Bigley and Nancy Ann (Wilkes) Banks, was born at Westville, Mississippi on 30 April 1860 and died on 8 August 1924. Burial was at the Banks family graveyard near Pinola, Mississippi. Before his death, Mr. Banks lived at Pinola and engaged in farming. He was a member of the Free and Accepted Masons. He married Emma Owens at Shivers, Mississippi and they had the following children:

Frank Burkett Banks, b. 16 Nov. 1891; d. 30 June 1915
Kate Lee Banks, born 28 June 1892
Georgia Ann Banks, born 5 June 1894
Minnie Ola Banks, born 24 Dec. 1899
Dan Douglas Banks

7. ARMINTA EMALINE BANKS

ARMINTA EMALINE BANKS, daughter of Charles Bigley and Nancy Ann (Wilkes) Banks, was born at Westville, Mississippi on 24 October 1861 and died on 24 June 1953. Burial was at the Banks family graveyard near Pinola, Mississippi. She married William Augustus Dickson on 24 January 1886 at the home of her parents. The Reverend Samuel Williamson performed the marriage ceremony at noon in the presence of a host of relatives and friends. The wedding ceremony was followed by an old-fashioned wedding dinner and "hoe-down". Mr. Dickson engaged in the mercantile business in Pinola and also owned and operated a farm near town, he also served as postmaster of Pinola for some years. The following children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Dickson:

Nannie Laura Dickson, born 28 Oct. 1887
William Augustus Dickson, Jr., born 17 Nov. 1888
Fannie Lou Dickson, born 24 Oct. 1891
Lillie May Dickson, born 7 March 1893
Augusta Belle Dickson, born 12 Dec. 1895
Mattie Maud Dickson, born 1 Nov. 1898
Minnie Tom Dickson, born 19 Feb. 1901
Wilma Emaline Dickson, born 4 March 1906

8. CHARLES BURKE BANKS

CHARLES BURKE BANKS, son of Charles Bigley and Nancy Ann (Wilkes) Banks, was born at old Westville, Simpson County, Mississippi on 25 September 1865 and died on 2 December 1955. Burial was at the Banks family graveyard near Pinola, Mississippi. Mr. Banks lived at Pinola and engaged in farming. He married Elizabeth Jane Berry at Strong River Baptist Church on 13 No-

ABNER WILKES

12

vember 1890 and they had the following children:

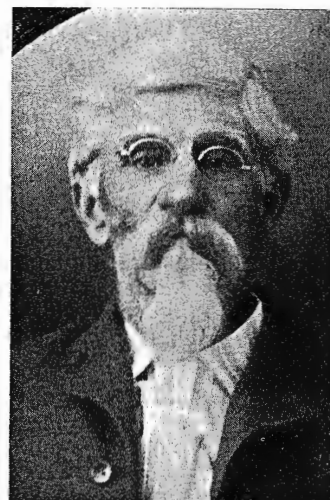
Walter Jackson Banks, born 7 Sept. 1891
Bessie Lee Banks, born 17 Sept. 1895
Nolia Jane Banks, born 13 Aug. 1898
Mary Viera Banks, born 23 Oct. 1901
Carrie Marie Banks, born 3 Oct. 1903
Robert Henry Banks, born 25 Aug. 1906

9. BENJAMIN LEE BANKS

BENJAMIN LEE BANKS, son of Charles Bigley and Nancy Ann (Wilkes) Banks, was born at old Westville, Mississippi on 1 May 1868 and died on 14 May 1957, burial was at Mendenhall, Mississippi. Mr. Banks lived at Pinola, Mississippi and engaged in farming there. He married Maggie Elizabeth Lee at Pinola on 24 December 1902 and they have the following children:

Quinnie Rivera Banks, born 1904
Dan Meadows Banks, born 6 Oct. 1906
Millie Ophelia Banks, born 4 Aug. 1908
Luther Eldridge Banks, born 23 Sept. 1911
Benjamin Lee Banks, Jr., born 28 Dec. 1916
Charles Jerome Banks, born 23 Oct. 1923

H. ABNER JAMES WILKES



ABNER JAMES WILKES, son of Stephen Hitchcock and Mary (McNeese) Wilkes, was born on his father's plantation in Marion County, Mississippi on 1 May 1835. He died on his farm near Prentiss, Mississippi on 2 May 1908. Burial was in the Buckley family cemetery near Prentiss.

His formal education was quite limited due to the lack of educational facilities where his family lived however his daughter, Mrs. Elizabeth Wilkes Bass, recalled that he attended Mount Zion Seminary for a short time. This co-educational boarding school was founded by Dr. A. R. Graves of Saratoga Springs, New York, who had been highly educated at Middlebury College, Middlebury, Vermont, and was sent to Miss-

issippi as a Presbyterian missionary in 1832. He spent three years at Natchez, a very wealthy community, and then concluded that he could do more for humanity by teaching in some poor section of the state. He was influenced to settle in Covington County, near the falls of the Okatomy River, where he was given a twenty-five acre tract of land in what is now the center of the town of Seminary and was assured of the opportunity to teach as many poor children as he wished. This was the beginning of Zion Seminary.

A pine-pole schoolhouse, with dirt chimneys and split-pole floors, was built and school and religious training was carried on here for a period. Then Dr. Graves returned to New York and collected funds from influential Presbyterian leaders for his school. Some of the money was invested in a sawmill and some in a brick-yard; these small industries prospered, but most important of all they produced the lumber and brick for building a large two-story schoolhouse and two two-story dormitories.

Through an Act of the Mississippi Legislature, Mr. Graves was able to charter his school in 1846 and affiliate it with other schools so that his students would be accepted in institutions of higher learning. His first teachers were six Presbyterian ministers from "up north", and there were departments of law, medicine, theology, art, and music. By the time of the outbreak of the War Between the States in 1861, the enrollment had reached more than 500 students from the first grade to college classes and the school was recognized throughout the state as one of its outstanding educational institutions. It is of interest to note that the parents of twenty students from the Delta had built twenty cabins on the campus grounds to house servants of their children.

Upon the outbreak of hostilities in 1861, the school was closed. Dr. Graves volunteered his services in the Confederacy as a chaplain, and two of his sons served in the Confederate States Army. During the war the school was burned, reportedly by Union sympathizers, thus ending the career of Zion Seminary. The town of Seminary takes its name from the school and today is a thriving little town with a large and well-equipped consolidated school that includes a grammar and a junior-senior high school. When the Seminary was established it was located in an isolated section of the country that was being rapidly settled by pioneers from Virginia to Georgia. It was about fifteen miles from the Wilkes Plantation, quite a distance in those days but only a "hoot and a holler" today.

Mr. Wilkes's boyhood was one of leisure. His father had many slaves, a large number being house and personal ones. Each child

had his or her attendant and his or her own horse and saddle and bridle. They were not required to work, so that there was plenty of time available for hunting, fishing, and riding. Our subject had a soft life but gave it up when a little over eighteen years of age to marry and settle on a farm of his own on Whitesand Creek in what was then Lawrence County but now Jefferson Davis County. He was successful as a farmer, and for many years operated a small general store for the convenience of his neighbors and his employees.

Mr. Wilkes was a Confederate soldier, and was proud of the fact that he was never absent from his command without proper authority during his entire service of more than three years to the end of the war. He and three of his brothers enlisted at Williamsburg, Covington County, on 22 February 1862. Richard Magee was recruiting the last twelve-month company and the Wilkes brothers, believing the war would soon be over, were anxious to serve in this locally recruited company. The recruits were sent to a training camp near Meridian, Mississippi, where the Magee Company became Company B of J. W. Balfour's Battalion at its organization on 19 April 1862. The recruits enjoyed camp life and gladly accepted the harsh training and hardships of camp life, as they were rearing to get to the front and give the South another Bull Run. Their eagerness was not dampened when orders came requiring them to re-enlist for three years or the duration of the war, however it was somewhat reduced one evening when a train arrived with about fifty wounded soldiers who had just met the enemy to the north of Meridian.

Balfour's Battalion was ordered to the relief of Vicksburg on 18 May 1862 and was on duty at Smede's Point during the bombardment of 20 May to 27 July and continued in the river defense of Vicksburg until December. The command was designated as the 46th Regiment of Infantry on 2 December 1862, the day its colonel was killed at Allatoona. The regiment was reviewed by President Davis and General Joseph E. Johnston on 21st December and was mentioned by General Pemberton as one of the commands entitled to the highest distinction in the defeat of General Sherman at Chickasaw Bayou on 7 December 1862 to 2 January 1863. The 46th Regiment was with Baldwin's Brigade in its march of 100 miles on 29 April to 4 May 1863, Vicksburg to Port Gibson and return. The Brigade was engaged in battle with General Grant's Army at Rodney Road before Port Gibson on May the first.

After returning from Port Gibson, Baldwin's Brigade, of which

the 46th Regiment was a part, was posted at Hall's Ferry until 15 May when it moved to Mount Alban. On 18 May Baldwin's Brigade occupied the outer line of works north of the city where they repulsed an assault and then were withdrawn to the innerline and stationed near the Riddle House.

The 46th Mississippi Regiment went through the entire 48-day siege of Vicksburg and reluctantly stacked their arms upon the surrender by General Pemberton on 4 July 1863. It was cited by the brigade commander as meriting favorable notice. General Baldwin wrote that his command was conscious of their ability to hold the position assigned them for an indefinite time. The command was daily aroused at 3:30 a.m. to guard against surprise, and nightly pickets were in advance of their defenses and nearly contiguous to the night sentinels of the enemy. They had suffered from fatigue, camp diseases, shortage of food, and heavy casualties, but were not ready to surrender without further fighting.

Following the surrender at Vicksburg, Mr. Wilkes, now a corporal, was paroled on 10th July and given a 60-day furlough with orders to report back to his command at Enterprise. The 46th Regiment was exchanged on 4 October 1863 and the personnel ordered to report for further duty. Corporal Wilkes rejoined his company at Dalton, Georgia, in November 1863 and it was actively engaged with the enemy thereafter until finally surrendered. Corporal Wilkes' company was engaged in Georgia and Tennessee battles at Dalton, Cassville, Big Shanty, New Hope Church, Pine Mountain, Kenesaw Mountain, Jonesboro, Franklin, Nashville, and Stone River. Later his command took part in the fighting around Mobile, Alabama and was surrendered at Spanish Fort on 12 April 1865.

The night before the surrender at Spanish Fort, Corporal Wilkes and ten of his friends concluded that they would make an attempt to escape rather than be sent to Ship Island where the prisoners were guarded by Negro soldiers. They took their rifles, that were to be stacked in surrender the next morning, shot the guard, and made for the nearby swamp. Corporal Wilkes was selected as the guide for the party at night and a Mr. Young was assigned the daytime duty. They found the going so bad that some of the party wanted to go back and surrender, but Corporal Wilkes pointed out the possibility of being tried for shooting the guard and this was sufficient to keep them going. They were four days and nights without food other than mutton cane that they found in the swamps of the Perdido and Escambia rivers. They eventually came out of the swamps in Florida about 80 miles from Mobile and headed north

to get as far from the enemy as possible. They next arrived at Oven Bluff well up on the Alabama River. The home guard there gave them food and they were soon off again. They figured it was probably about 300 miles to Covington County where Corporal Wilkes wanted to hole up and this was not considered much of a walk for these hardened Rebel foot-soldiers. The next place of importance that they struck was on the Tombigbee River where they almost came to blows with the local militia who wanted to consider them deserters but were talked out of it. Soon they reached Shubuta, where they met some of their comrades who had managed to escape after the surrender. One of these was their Adjutant General Mayberry who advised them to make the best of their way home. From Shubuta Corporal Wilkes headed for Williamsburg, where he had enlisted more than three years earlier.

When Corporal Wilkes arrived at the little church about three miles east of Williamsburg he was on familiar ground, as he had often attended church there. The church was near a small creek and it was on a log on the bank of this stream where Corporal Wilkes sat and really gave thought to the future. He decided that he didn't want his old Enfield rifle around to remind him of his wartime activities so he threw it into the creek. After resting and cogitating for some time, he headed for his home on Whitesand Creek, near what is now Prentiss, Mississippi. He arrived at his gate about two o'clock in the morning much to the surprise of his wife who had thought he had been made prisoner, or perhaps was among the dead.

Some years after the conclusion of the war, Corporal Wilkes was persuaded to record his wartime experiences that he so interestingly recounted to his children and his grandchildren. He did this and gave the story to his son, Harris, who gave it to his daughter, Lou, and the latter gave it to her son, Williard Davis who now lives at Prentiss, Mississippi. The author learned of the existence of this record, contained in two small memorandum books, and was permitted to copy the story so that it might be distributed among direct descendants and placed in libraries, where it will be available to the public. A copy of this well-told account is to be found at the Mississippi State Archives and in the libraries of the University of Mississippi and Mississippi State University⁵⁴.

Corporal Wilkes was an active member of Bethany Baptist Church, formed in 1819, located near his home. He was a Mason

54. Record of Civil War service abstracted from records of Miss. State Archives and from Corporal Wilkes's written account of his life during the War Between the States

134 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

for many years before his death and belonged to the lodge at what was then Blountville (now Prentiss).

Abner James Wilkes and Elizabeth Ann Buckley (29 June 1834—16 Sept. 1863) daughter of James and Elizabeth (Parkman) Buckley, were married in Lawrence County, Mississippi, on 1 August 1853⁵⁵. Her grandfather, Butler Buckley, served as a private in Captain Thomas Fleming's Company of the First Virginia Regiment in the French and Indian War⁵⁶. The following children were born of this marriage:

1. Mary Eliza Wilkes 2. Wiley Porter Harris Wilkes
3. Evan Abner Wilkes

Following the death of his first wife, Corporal Wilkes married her sister, Martha Odom Buckley (Nov. 30, 1841—Aug. 3, 1935), on 6 March 1864⁵⁷ and they had the following issue:

4. Lou Elizabeth Wilkes

1. MARY ELIZA WILKES

MARY ELIZA WILKES, daughter of Abner James and Ann Elizabeth (Buckley) Wilkes, was born near the present Prentiss, Mississippi, on 20 May 1855 and died at Lumberton, Mississippi, on 16 March 1959, burial was at Lumberton. She married Isaac Esau Bass (17 Jan. 1850—14 Oct. 1933) at the home of her parents on 8 January 1874. The War Between the States caused their families to lose about all of their worldly possessions, so the newlyweds had to start from scratch. Mr. Bass had purchased from a cousin of his, Richard Polk, a homestead of 40 acres of land on Holidays Creek near what is now Bunker Hill in Marion County, Mississippi. The only improvements on the land at the time of transfer of title was a two-room log cabin almost completed, and this was the nucleus around which they were able through hard work to build a large estate for that section and time. This consisted of: more than 1,000 acres of land, much of which was fenced and in cultivation or pasture; a general merchandise store; and a milling complex of sawmill, gristmill, ricemill, and cotton gin.

In 1899, Mr. Bass disposed of his property in Marion County, Mississippi and moved to Lumberton, in the same state, where later he was able to concentrate on and bring to fruition his dream of a pecan nursery that would furnish the southern landowners with trees that would bear true to name and produce a paying crop of large, thin-shell nuts. For many years now the Bass Pecan Com-

55. Family Bible record

56. Charlotte County, Va. FIBW, Vol. 1, page 143/144

57. Family Bible record

ABNER WILKES

135

pany's nursery has been recognized as the largest pecan nursery in the world.

Mrs. Bass and her husband were devout Baptists although they did not join the church until after their marriage, preferring to remain free to dance, and the church frowned upon this. They were baptized at Ebenezer Baptist Church on 5 March 1882 and withdrew on 4 November 1882 to become founder members of Bunker Hill Baptist Church that was located near their home. They gave the land for the church and furnished the lumber for the construction of its building. When they moved to Lumberton, they became affiliated with the First Baptist Church there.

Mrs. Bass took a keen interest in the welfare of her community, and it was after her ninety-third birthday that she presented her church at Lumberton with a set of chimes. The beauty and value of this gift is well illustrated by the following poem that Mr. Ira L. Broadus of Wiggins, Mississippi, was inspired to write on 29 March 1949 while listening to the chimes from his sickbed in the Lumberton Hospital:

"In Lumberton a thousand souls,
The large, the small, the young, the old.
These people have their ups and their downs
Like people do in other towns.
Some have wealth, and health, and hope in life,
Others, sick and weary and torn in strife.
Mid all the turmoil of the town
From out the church there breaks a sound.
Sweet chimes of music fill the air,
Like the benediction of prayer.
Like the angel's choir in Judea's Hill,
Of peace on earth, to men of good will.
They feel that God is on the throne,
And keeping watch above His own.
The tired laborer gives a smile,
It comforts mother and child.
The sick and the worried feel revived,
The pastor feels his work worth-while.
It makes them wish to cease to sin,
And causes visitors to come again.
But let me say before I pass,
the church's gift is by "Mother" Bass,
She's crowned "Mother" by the town;
We think this gift should star the crown.

Pascagoula Public Library
Genealogy & Local History Dept.
Wilkes Family

136 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

May her life be prolonged, Oh Lord, we pray,
With peace and happiness every day."

Mrs. Beulah N. Hogan, a neighbor and close friend, dedicated the following to Mrs. Bass on the occasion of her ninety-ninth birthday, 20 May 1954:

"THE FIVE O'CLOCK CHIMES"
"Hark! There is a melody, mingled with
The silver sound of bells!
And this is the message
That their music spells:
A lovely little woman,
With heart so brave and true,
As fragile and as sweet
As a rose with morning dew.
She's ninety and nine, they say,
This is the twentieth of May!
She gave those lovely chimes
To ring throughout each day,
That they may quicken and uplift
The spirit along life's way.
They ring out the story of her love and devotion
For a town she helped to build;
And in the hearts of all may
This message of chimes be instilled".

Mrs. Bass was known for her kindness to all and her wit and humor. At her ninety-eighth birthday celebration when her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren began to sing "Happy Birthday", she retorted with:

"Rosin your bow
Make yourself welcome
Wherever you go"

She was a home-body, but fond of people and liked to have them around her, however she was a firm believer in "short visits make long friends". She had a vivid recollection of the War Between the States as it affected the people of her acquaintance and her repertory was replete with hair-raising accounts of incidents that she had witnessed. When she was a child there were many Indians living nearby, these were friendly and one old squaw was remembered as always crying at eleven o'clock in the morning because she had lost a child at that hour.

ABNER WILKES

137

The following children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Bass:

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| a. Charles Cassedy Bass | e. Cora Mabel Bass |
| b. Mary Elizabeth Bass | f. Isaac Houston Bass |
| c. Ivan Ernest Bass | g. Levi Gaston Bass |
| d. Ida Gay Bass | h. Zanona Wreath Bass |



a. DR. CHARLES CASSEDDY BASS, son of Isaac Esau and Mary Eliza (Wilkes) Bass, was born in the family log-cabin on Holidays Creek, about 10 miles north of Columbia, Marion County, Mississippi. He attended elementary school at nearby Bunker Hill and went on to Columbia High School where he graduated in 1893.

He obtained his Doctor of Medicine degree from the Medical College, Tulane University in 1899 and then did general practice at Columbia, Mississippi until 1904, when he took post-graduate work at Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, Baltimore, Maryland and later located at New Orleans.

Soon after settling in New Orleans, Dr. Bass became connected with the faculty of Tulane Medical College, spending the greater part of his time in teaching and research. Subjects to which he devoted special attention were: Malaria, hookworm disease, pellagra, tropical diseases, diphtheria, typhoid fever, oral health, and laboratory methods. He was Professor of Experimental Medicine from 1912 to 1940; and was Dean of the college from 1922 to 1940. Dr. Bass was retired as Dean Emeritus upon reaching the age of 65, but has continued intensive research at the laboratory especially equipped and set aside for his personal use.

Dr. Bass began research in hookworm diseases in 1903 and continued this work at Johns Hopkins Medical School in 1904 and at Tulane Medical College after that year. He authored, with Dr. George Dock, *Hookworm Diseases* in 1909. He did much research in malaria and was the first person to successfully cultivate *Malaria Plasmodia in Vitro*, this was in 1911. He made further research in this field with Dr. F. M. Johns in the U. S. Government Hospital, Ancon, Canal Zone and succeeded in cultivating all three species of

Pascagoula Public Library
Genealogy & Local History Dept.
Wilkes Family

138 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

malaria parasites, later he was Scientific Director of Malaria Control Demonstration of the International Health Board in Bolivar County, Mississippi. He is the author of Alveolodental Pyorrhea and Practical Clinical Laboratory Diagnosis, both with Dr. Johns. In addition to these publications, Dr. Bass has written more than a hundred brochures and articles on hookworm diseases, malaria, pellagra, test for typhoid fever, diphtheria, medical education, dental health, and other subjects. Following his retirement, he has pursued intensive research into the cause and prevention of the loss of teeth and considers his research in this field his most important contribution to human welfare.

Dr. Bass has been a member, and in several instances, president of many medical societies, too numerous to name here. He has received the following awards: Gold Medal, Southern Medical Society 1912 for achievement in medical research; Gold Medal, American Medical Association 1913 for research exhibit in malaria; Medal, Mississippi State Medical Association for extraordinary scientific achievement; Medal, National Institute of Social Science 1913 for contributions to the welfare of mankind; Special Gold Medal, Orleans Parish Medical Society 1914 for achievement in research in malaria; Key to Stars and Bars Society of Tulane Medical College 1915 for scholarship. Among the honorary degrees awarded Dr. Bass are the following: Doctor of Science from the University of Cincinnati and Doctor of Laws from Duke University.

Charles Cassedy Bass and Coraline Howell, daughter of Daniel Yates and Caroline (Davis) Howell, were married on 17 October 1897 and have the following children:

- aa. Cassie Juanita Bass
- bb. Rachael Ernestine Bass
- cc. Helen Corinne Bass
- dd. Charles Cassedy Bass, Jr.

aa. CASSIE JUANITA BASS, daughter of Dr. Charles Cassedy and Coraline (Howell) Bass, was born at Columbia, Mississippi, on 16 March 1902. She attended public schools in New Orleans, Louisiana and graduated at H. Sophie Newcomb College. She belongs to the Pi Phi Sorority and the Colonial Dames of America. She married Donald Trumbo, son of Arthur Cook and Bess (Patterson) Trumbo, at New Orleans on 2 January 1925. They reside at Fayetteville, Arkansas, where Mr. Trumbo has numerous business interests. The following children were born of this union:

- aaa. Donald Trumbo, Jr.
- bbb. Charles Bass Trumbo

ABNER WILKES

139

- ccc. Arthur Howell Trumbo, born 2 June 1938
- ddd. Ellis Patterson Trumbo, born 17 Dec. 1940

aaa. DONALD TRUMBO, JR., was born at Fayetteville, Arkansas, on 11 October 1931. He graduated in business administration at the University of Arkansas and resides in Fayetteville, where he is in the securities investment business. Donald Trumbo, Jr. and Janis Fay Blessing (born 2 April 1931), daughter of Alvin Earl and Fay Eugena (Collipriest) Blessing, were married 5 January 1957 and they have the following issue:

- Donald Trumbo, III, born 24 Sept. 1957
- Terry Trumbo, born 21 Nov. 1958
- Tyler Blessing Trumbo, born 23 Dec. 1959

bbb. CHARLES BASS TRUMBO, was born in Fayetteville, Arkansas, on 23 February 1935. He obtained his law degree from the University of Arkansas and is now (1959) practicing law in Fayetteville. Charles Bass Trumbo and Carolyn Kay Wells (born 3 March 1934), daughter of Loyal Hamilton and Bess (Joyce) Wells, were married on 20 August 1955. To this time (1959), they have no children.

bb. RACHAEL ERNESTINE BASS, daughter of Dr. Charles Cassedy and Coraline (Howell) Bass, was born in Baltimore, Maryland, on 4 August 1904. After attending public grade schools in New Orleans, she went to H. Sophie Newcomb College where she graduated. She belongs to the Pi Phi Sorority. She married James Wallace Hopkins, son of James L. and Alice (Powell) Hopkins, at New Orleans, Louisiana, on 24 January 1928. Since marriage, they have lived at New Orleans, where Mr. Hopkins is engaged in the practice of civil law and Mrs. Hopkins is active in civic and social affairs of the city. She is a member of the Colonial Dames of America and the Orleans Club and Mr. Hopkins belongs to the Boston Club. They have no children and live at 1300 Valmont street.

cc. HELEN CORINNE BASS, daughter of Dr. Charles Cassedy and Coraline (Howell) Bass, was born in New Orleans, Louisiana, on 30 October 1906. She attended elementary and high schools in New Orleans and went on to graduate at H. Sophie Newcomb College. She belongs to the Pi Phi Sorority. She married Dr. Benjamin Lewis Bryant of Cincinnati, Ohio, from whom she was divorced without issue and permitted to resume her maiden name. She attended Columbia University, New York City, where she pursued post-graduate work. At present (1963), she is the librarian of the law school of the University of Mississippi and is an instructor of legal bibliography at that institution.

Pascagoula Public Library
Genealogy & Local History Dept.
Wilkes Family

140 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

dd. CHARLES CASSEDY BASS, JR., son of Dr. Charles Cassedy and Coraline (Howell) Bass, was born in New Orleans, Louisiana, on 13 August 1908. He attended grade and high schools in New Orleans and then graduated in law at Tulane University of Louisiana and practiced civil law with his brother-in-law, James W. Hopkins, in New Orleans until he enlisted in the United States Army on 7 January 1942. He was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Army Air Corps on 5 August 1942 and was promoted to first lieutenant on 29 September 1943. Lieutenant Bass was seriously wounded in the landing of the troop-carrying glider that he was piloting in the initial invasion of Normandy, France, on 6 June 1944. After long hospitalization and numerous surgical operations, he was retired from active service on 19 December 1945. He was awarded the following decorations: Air Medal; Purple Heart; Bronze Arrowhead for the invasion of Normandy on 6 June 1944. At the present time (1959) he holds the position of Guardianship Attorney in the Veterans Administration, New Orleans, Louisiana.

Charles Cassedy Bass, Jr., and Elizabeth Margaret Conner of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania were married 4 September 1945 and have the following issue:

Charles Cassedy Bass, III, born 16 June 1946
Patricia Elizabeth Bass, born 18 Sept. 1948
William Conner Bass, born 11 Aug. 1949



b. DR. MARY ELIZABETH BASS, daughter of Isaac Esau and Mary Eliza (Wilkes) Bass, was born on 5 April 1876 in the family log-cabin near what is now Bunker Hill, Marion County, Mississippi. She died of cancer at Foundation Hospital, New Orleans, Louisiana on 26 January 1956. Burial was in the family burial plot in the cemetery at Lumberton, Mississippi.

She attended Bunker Hill and other nearby elementary schools in her childhood and then went to Columbia High School, Columbia, Mississippi, where she graduated with the class of 1893. While attending high school, and for some years

thereafter, she taught in the public schools of Mississippi and Texas,

ABNER WILKES

141

all the time saving her money for a college education. She attended the Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania, where she received the degree of Doctor of Medicine in 1904.

Doctor Bass began her career in the practice of medicine with general practice in New Orleans, Louisiana in 1904. In 1905, she and five other women physicians founded the New Orleans Dispensary for Women and Children, said to have been the first institution of its kind in the South. She was appointed to the teaching staff of Tulane University School of Medicine in 1911, the first woman doctor to receive such an appointment and four years before women were admitted as students to this medical school. At Tulane, she was Professor of Clinical Laboratory Diagnosis at the Graduate School of Medicine and Associate Professor of Medicine until her retirement in 1941.

Doctor Bass was the first woman member of the Orleans Parish Medical Society, of which she was their secretary and vice-president. She was active in the Louisiana State Medical Society, American Medical Association, American Society of Tropical Medicine, American Medical Women's Association, American College of Physicians, American College of Pathology, History of Science Society, History of Medicine Society, and other national and international societies. She authored many scientific and historic articles. For several years before her death, she wrote the column "These Were the First" in the Journal of the American Medical Women's Association. In 1952 she received the Alumnae Achievement Award of the Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania. "in recognition of her distinguished service in medical education and research and her inspiring interest in literature by and about women in medicine". In 1953, she received the Elizabeth Blackwell Centennial Medal of the American Medical Women's Association for "devoted service to the association".

In the Rudolph Matas Medical Library of the Medical College of Tulane University there is found the collection known the world over as "The Elizabeth Bass Collection, *Women in Medicine*" which she instituted and fostered. She devoted much of her time in the later years of her life to this collection and to assembling material for it.

c. IVAN ERNEST BASS, son of Isaac Esau and Mary Eliza (Wilkes) Bass, was born in the family log cabin near what is now Bunker Hill, Marion County, Mississippi, on 29 July 1877. His elementary schooling was at Bunker Hill and nearby public and subscription schools, later he attended Columbia High School, Colum-

Pascagoula Public Library
Genealogy & Local History Dept.
Wilkes Family

142 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

bia, Mississippi, but entered the United States Naval Academy as a naval cadet before completing his high school education. He entered the Naval Academy on 20 May 1897 and was graduated as a past-midshipman on 7 June 1901 and later was awarded a degree of bachelor of science. Following the required two years of sea duty, he was commissioned an ensign in the Navy and was later promoted through the grades to rear admiral to rank from 1 March 1943. Upon reaching the statutory age, he was retired as of 1 August 1941 but returned to active duty on 5 January 1942 and remained in this status until 31 December 1947, when he was again retired.

He served in the following ships of the Navy: 1901-1903 battleship *Wisconsin* of the Pacific Fleet as Junior Division Officer and later as Division Officer; 1903-1904 Ex-Spanish gunboat *Quiros* of Philippine Squadron as Executive, Navigator, and Ordnance Officer; 1904 Ex-Spanish gunboat *Pampanga* of Philippine Squadron as Commanding Officer; 1904-1906 Ex-Spanish gunboat *Villalobos*, Asiatic Fleet, Yangtze Patrol as Executive, Navigator, and Ordnance Officer; 1906-1907 battleship *Ohio* of Asiatic Fleet as Senior Assistant Engineer; 1909 cruiser *New York*, Atlantic Fleet, as Gunnery Officer; 1910-1911 battleship *North Dakota* of the Atlantic Fleet as Senior Assistant Engineer Officer; 1911-1912 battleship *Ohio*, Atlantic Fleet, as Engineer Officer; 1912 battleship *Mississippi* of the Atlantic Fleet as Engineer Officer; 1914-1915 battleship *Michigan* of the Atlantic Fleet as Engineer Officer; 1915-1917 battleship *Texas* of the Atlantic Fleet as Engineer Officer; 1931-1934 cruisers *Houston* and *Augusta* of the Asiatic Fleet as Fleet Engineer and Aide to the Commander-in-Chief.

He had an unusual amount of important engineering and administrative shore duty, especially after being selected for Engineering Duty Only in 1917 under the Act of Congress of 1916 that restricted those selected to shore duty only after reaching the rank of commander, except for those serving on the staff of a Commander afloat. He had the following shore duty assignments; 1912-1914 Navy Yard, Portsmouth, New Hampshire, as Senior Assistant to the Engineer Officer; 1917-1920 Navy Yard, Boston, Massachusetts, as Engineer Officer and Head of Machinery Division; 1920-1923 Navy Yard, New York as Engineer Officer and Head of Machinery Division; 1923-1928 Navy Department, Washington, D. C. as Engineer Member of Board of Inspection and Survey; 1928-29 Bureau of Engineering, Washington, D. C. as head of Repair Division; 1929-1931 Assistant Chief of Bureau of Engineering, Navy Department, Washington, D. C.; 1934-1939 Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock

ABNER WILKES

143

Company, Newport News, Virginia as Inspector of Machinery, Inspector of Navigational Material, and Inspector of Ordnance; 1939 Bureau of Engineering, Washington, D. C. as General Inspector and Senior Member of Board on Changes in Machinery; 1940-1941 Navy Department, Washington, D. C. as Senior Member of Compensation Board; 1942-1943 Navy Department, Washington, D. C., Member of Compensation Board; 1944-1947 Bureau of Ships, Navy Department, Washington, D. C., Senior Member Settlement Review Board, Facilities Board, and Disposal Board.

During more than fifty years of active duty in the U. S. Navy under nine Presidents, Admiral Bass received the following awards and decorations: 1915 letter of commendation from the Secretary of the Navy in connection with the award of the Battle Efficiency Pennant to the USS *Michigan*; 1916 Secretary of the Navy's letter of commendation in connection with the award of the Battle Efficiency Pennant to the USS *Texas*; 1916 Secretary of the Navy's letter of commendation for engineering efficiency on battleships *Michigan* and *Texas*; 1917 Secretary of the Navy's letter of commendation for engineering efficiency on the USS *Texas*; 1917 Secretary of the Navy's letter of commendation in connection with the award of the Battle Efficiency Pennant to the USS *Texas*; 1920 Secretary of the Navy commendation for service during World War I, "He performed meritorious service in the line of his profession as Engineer Officer and Head of Machinery Division at the Boston Navy Yard"; President's Certificate of Satisfactory Service during World War II.

He is a founder member of the Army Navy Country Club of Washington, D. C.; a member of the New York Yacht Club; Fellow of the Institute of American Genealogy; member National Genealogical Society; member Mississippi Historical Society; honorary member Mississippi Genealogical Society; member of the United States Naval Institute. Since his retirement, Admiral Bass has devoted much of his time to genealogical research. He is the author of a "History of Esau Bass (Revolutionary Soldier), His Brother Jonathan Bass, and Their Descendants" and this Wilkes family history.

Ivan Ernest Bass and Florence Victoria Bouché, daughter of Joel and Mary Jane (Martell) Bouché, of Cambridge, Massachusetts were married at Cambridge on 26 November 1915. They have no children. They reside at 3601 Connecticut Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.

d. IDA GAY BASS, daughter of Isaac Esau and Mary Eliza

Pascagoula Public Library
Genealogy & Local History Dept.
Wilkes Family

144 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

(Wilkes) Bass, was born near what is now Bunker Hill, Marion County, Mississippi, on 4 February 1879. She died of a heart condition at the Baptist Hospital, Jackson, Mississippi, on 3 January 1954 and was buried in Lakewood Memorial Park alongside her husband, who died on 6 June 1934. Before her death, Gay had lived at Jackson for about 45 years and was a member of the First Baptist Church. After elementary schooling at Bunker Hill and other nearby country schools, she attended high school at Columbia, Mississippi and Blue Mountain College, Blue Mountain, Mississippi.

Ida Gay Bass and Dr. Albert Seth Applewhite, son of John and Mary (Brown) Applewhite, were married at the home of her parents on 28 December 1898. Doctor Applewhite was born at Columbia, Mississippi, on 16 September 1871. After graduation at Columbia High School, he taught in the public schools of Marion County, Mississippi, until he was elected Superintendent of Education, this latter position he held for four years and then went on to the study of medicine at Tulane Medical College, New Orleans, Louisiana, and Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia. After receipt of his M.D. degree at Emory, he took up general medical practice at Lumberton, Mississippi, for two years before settling down at Jackson, Mississippi, where he was prominent in his profession. The following children were born to this couple:

- aa. Norman Elliot Applewhite bb. Rivers Applewhite
- cc. Mary Elizabeth Applewhite dd. Pauline Applewhite
- ee. In addition there was an adopted son, Henry Applewhite

aa. NORMAN ELLIOT APPLEWHITE, son of Dr. Albert Seth and Ida Gay (Bass) Applewhite, was born at Columbia, Mississippi, on 9 March 1902. His early schooling was in the public schools of Lumberton and Jackson, Mississippi. Following his graduation from high school at Jackson, he attended Millsaps College, where he received his Bachelor of Science degree in 1923. From Millsaps he went to the University of Mississippi for a two-year Pre-Med course and then went on to the Medical College of Tulane University, where he obtained a degree of Doctor of Medicine with the class of 1927. Dr. Applewhite interned at Touro Infirmary and at the Eye, Ear and Nose and Throat Hospital in New Orleans for two years and then practiced with the noted Dr. K. C. Lynch of New Orleans until the untimely death of the latter. After the death of Dr. Lynch, Dr. Applewhite engaged in the practice of his specialty, diseases of the ear, nose and throat in New Orleans, Louisiana, Jackson, Mississippi, and Honolulu, Hawaii. A sufferer of asthma, he did not remain long in any one place until he finally

ABNER WILKES

145

settled in Reno, Nevada, where he has recently added plastic surgery to his other specialties.

Dr. Applewhite is a member of the following: Washoe County Medical Society; staff, St. Mary's Hospital; staff, Washoe Medical Society; American Academy of Plastic Surgery; Academy of Ophthalmology and Otolaryngology; Pacific Coast Ophtho-Otolaryngological Society; American Medical Society. He resides at 280 Island Ave., Reno, Nevada, where he is the outstanding doctor in his specialties.

Dr. Applewhite married Mrs. Lois Charlotte (Pool) Heistand, daughter of Benjamin E. and Annie E. (Hendrix) Pool, at Carson City, Nevada, on 23 July 1953. The following daughter of Mrs. Heistand has been adopted by Dr. Applewhite:

Sherry Lyn Applewhite, born 13 Dec. 1940

bb. RIVERS APPLEWHITE, daughter of Dr. Albert Seth and Ida Gay (Bass) Applewhite, was born at Columbia, Mississippi, on 16 February 1904. She attended elementary and high school at Jackson, Mississippi and went on to the University of Mississippi, from which institution she received her B.A. degree in 1924 and a Master of Arts degree in 1925. She is a member of the Junior League, Southern Luncheon Club, Finesse Club, the American Association of University Women, the 75 Club and the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Rivers Applewhite and Wirt Adams Yerger, son of Edward and Nancy (Campbell) Yerger, were married in the First Baptist Church, Jackson, Mississippi, on 17 October 1928. Mr. Yerger received his early schooling in the public schools of Jackson and obtained a degree of Bachelor of Science from the University of Mississippi in 1923. He is the owner-president of the Ross & Yerger insurance firm of Jackson; member of the Jackson Country Club; member and past-president of the Jackson Rotary Club; is on the Board of Directors of the Young Mens Christian Association; a director of the Little Theater of Jackson; and a deacon of the First Baptist Church. The following children were born of this marriage:

- aaa. Wirt Adams Yerger, Jr.
- bbb. William Swan Yerger
- ccc. Ivan Bass Yerger
- ddd. Rivers Gay Yerger

aaa. WIRT ADAMS YERGER, JR., son of Wirt Adams and Rivers (Applewhite) Yerger, was born in Jackson, Mississippi, on 18 March 1930. He attended Power Elementary and Central High schools and later attended the University of Mississippi, from

Pascagoula Public Library
Genealogy & Local History Dept.
Wilkes Family

146 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

which he was graduated in 1952 with a B.A. degree. Mr. Yerger then spent two years in active service with the United States Air Force, having been commissioned a second lieutenant, with the bulk of the time being at Carswell Air Force Base, Fort Worth, Texas. In March 1955, he began a four months tour of Europe, returning to Jackson to take up the duties of President of the Jackson Kappa Alpha Alumni Association for one year. In 1956, he assumed responsibility as Mississippi Republican Chairman, and in the same year as well as 1960, was selected as "The most outstanding man of the year" by the Jackson Junior Chamber of Commerce. He is active in the insurance business of Ross & Yerger, Inc.

Wirt Adams Yerger, Jr. and Mary Polk Montague (born 3 March 1933), daughter of Frank and Ida Lois (Polk) Montague of Hattiesburg, Mississippi were married in the Main Street Baptist Church of Hattiesburg on 9 June 1956. Miss Montague was educated at the public schools of Hattiesburg and completed one year at Randolph-Macon College in Lynchburg, Virginia, before going to H. Sophie Newcomb College in New Orleans, Louisiana, where she graduated in 1954. Miss Montague spent the summer of 1954 traveling in Europe and returned home to teach for three years in Hattiesburg, and Jackson. She was Queen of the Mystic Krewe of Zeus (carnival organization in Hattiesburg) and belongs to the Symphony League, Children's Community Theater, One O'Clock Club, and Chi Omega Social Sorority. They reside at 1936 Bellewood Road, Jackson, Miss. The following children were born of this marriage:

Wirt Adams Yerger, III, born 4 May 1957

Mary Montague Yerger, born 15 April 1959

bbb. WILLIAM SWAN YERGER, son of Wirt Adams and Rivers (Applewhite) Yerger, was born at Jackson, Mississippi, on 11 June 1932. He attended Power Elementary, Bailey Junior High and Central High schools of Jackson before entering Virginia Military Institute in September 1950 where he spent two years pursuing a course in history. He became the historian of his class the second year at this renowned military school and this enabled him to serve on the highly feared and potent General Committee which helped to discipline the "Rats", as the first year men were called. Mr. Yerger left V. M. I. in 1952 and entered the University of Mississippi for two years, completing his first year in law and obtaining his Bachelor of Arts degree in 1954. He was commissioned a second lieutenant in the United States Air Force Reserve following his graduation at "Ole Miss" and the completion of the Reserve

ABNER WILKES

147

Officers Training Course and was assigned to the Brookley Air Force Base, Mobile, Alabama, where he served as Assistant Provost Marshall and Assistant Club Officer. After two years with the Air Force, he returned to campus life and finished his law requirements for the L. L. B. degree at the University of Virginia in 1958. Following graduation at the University of Virginia, he traveled for three months in Europe and returned to Jackson, Mississippi and entered the practice of law and is associated with the firm of Heidelberg, Woodliff & Franks. He is active in the Republican Party of Mississippi and is serving as chairman of the Speaker's Bureau of Jackson Republicans. He belongs to the Jackson Country Club, the Junior Chamber of Commerce, and the Kappa Alpha Order.

William Swan Yerger married Virginia Palmer, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John H. Palmer of Pine Bluff, Arkansas, at the First Methodist Church in Pine Bluff on 16 June 1962. Virginia attended Mary Baldwin College and completed her education at Southwestern University, Memphis, Tennessee, where she was president of Chi Omega Sorority, a member of Pi, honorary leadership and scholastic sorority. They have one daughter.

Virginia Palmer Yerger, born 2 Oct. 1963

ccc. IVAN BASS YERGER, son of Wirt Adams and Rivers (Applewhite) Yerger, was born at Jackson, Mississippi on 4 January 1934. He received his early education at Power Elementary and Bailey Junior High, and Central High schools of Jackson. He entered Virginia Military Institute in September 1952 but left that institution to enter the United States Naval Academy on 27 June 1953 upon appointment by Congressman John Bell Williams. His midshipman cruise was in the battleship *New Jersey* and he visited such ports of call as Vigo, Spain; Cherbourg, France; and Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. After two years at the Naval Academy he decided that he did not desire a naval career and resigned from the Navy in June 1955. After leaving the Naval Academy, he entered the University of Oklahoma and began the study of petroleum and geological engineering. Here he became a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity and graduated with two B.S. degrees in June 1958. Upon graduation at Oklahoma University, Mr. Yerger was commissioned a second lieutenant in the United States Army Reserve and, following summer work as a roustabout with the Texas Company in southern Louisiana oil fields, he served for six months on active duty in the Ordnance School at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland. He entered the University of Texas in the fall of 1959 and received his degree in law there.

148 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

ddd. RIVERS GAY YERGER, daughter of Wirt Adams and Rivers (Applewhite) Yerger, was born at Jackson, Mississippi, on 27 April 1937. She was educated in the public schools of Jackson, attending Power Elementary, Bailey Junior High, and Central High schools. After graduation at Central High, she went on to Hollins College in Virginia, where she majored for three years in history. Later she graduated from Millsaps College.

Rivers Gay Yerger and Robert Barry Lurate, son of Robert Francis and Evelyn Lurate of Hartford, Connecticut, were married at Salem, Virginia, 22 March 1958. Mr. Lurate was educated in the public schools of Hartford, Connecticut, and Livingston, New Jersey and then entered Washington and Lee University in 1954. At the university, he majored in geology and graduated with a B. S. degree in 1958. He was commissioned a second lieutenant in the U. S. Army Reserve upon graduation and began his tour of duty with the Infantry at Fort Benning, Columbus, Georgia. Upon completion of service he was relieved of active duty in the rank of 1st lieutenant, and moved to Jackson, Mississippi where he is with the First National Bank. They reside at 824 Oakwood St., Jackson, Mississippi. He belongs to Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity. They have the following issue:

Shannon Gay Lurate, born 19 Dec. 1958
Robert Barry Lurate, Jr., born 5 March 1961
Leigh Yerger Lurate, born 25 Feb. 1962

cc. MARY ELIZABETH APPLEWHITE, daughter of Dr. Albert Seth and Ida Gay (Bass) Applewhite, was born at Columbia, Mississippi on 17 June 1905. She attended elementary and high school at Jackson, Mississippi and went on to Mississippi State College for Women and to the University of Mississippi. She resides at 3433 Valley Drive, Alexandria, Virginia.

She married James William Cassedy, II (born 21 Jan. 1904) on 28 July 1924. Mr. Cassedy was the son of Hon. James William and Ethel (Cameron) Cassedy of Brookhaven, Mississippi. He attended the public schools of Brookhaven and received his degree in law from the University of Mississippi in 1926. He practiced law in Brookhaven for a few years before being elected District Attorney of the 14th Circuit Court. He served two years as District Attorney and was then made Assistant Attorney General of the State of Mississippi. In 1943 he moved to Washington, D. C., where he was Assistant General Counsel of the Federal Trade Commission and argued many of the Commission's price-fixing and anti-trust cases before the Court of Appeals and the United States Supreme

ABNER WILKES

149

Court. In 1952 Mr. Cassedy resigned from the Federal Trade Commission and engaged in private law practice, specializing in fair trade and anti-trust work. He had built up a lucrative practice when his untimely death came on 2 May 1959 at the Washington Hospital Center, Washington, D. C. At the time of his death, he was living at 5006 Nahant Street, Sumner, Maryland, a suburb of Washington, D. C. Mrs. Cassedy and her son, Michael, live at 3433 Valley Drive, Park Fairfax, Arlington, Va.

Mr. Cassedy was a deacon of Briggs Baptist Church, Westmoreland Hills, and taught the men's Bible class. He was a member of the District of Columbia Bar Association, and the Capital Democratic Club. He was a Mason and belonged to the Scottish Rite and the Shriners.

The following children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Cassedy:

aaa. James William Cassedy, III bbb. Albert Applewhite Cassedy
ccc. Carolyn Cassedy ddd. Nancy Cassedy
eee. Michael Stephen Cassedy, born 2 May 1949

aaa. JAMES WILLIAM CASSEDDY, III, son of James William, II and Mary Elizabeth (Applewhite) Cassedy, was born at Jackson, Mississippi on 4 August 1925. He resides at 5810 Flanders Street, Springfield, Virginia. He has been with the Hartford Accident & Indemnity Co. since July 1947. Mr. Cassedy is a veteran of World War II. His college education was interrupted by the war. He enlisted for service in the U. S. Navy at Washington, D. C. on 3 August 1943. He had basic training at Bainbridge, Maryland and was then assigned to USS LST 496. He was wounded during the invasion of Normandy on 13 June 1944 and was discharged at Bainbridge, Maryland on 16 May 1946 in the rating of HA1/c. He has the following decoration: Purple Heart.

James William Cassedy, III married Linda Curlee and they have the following issue:

Laurel Dianne Cassedy, born 12 Dec. 1947
Kathleen Gay Cassedy, born 21 Sept. 1951
James William Cassedy, IV, born 20 May, 1954
Victor Curlee Cassedy, born 6 April 1956
Jeffrey Glenn Cassedy, born 23 Sept. 1961

bbb. ALBERT APPLEWHITE CASSEDDY, son of James William, II and Mary Elizabeth (Applewhite) Cassedy, was born at Jackson, Mississippi on 24 May 1928. He is a veteran of World War II, having served in the United States Navy from 1945 to 1947. He was discharged in the rating of S 1/c. Mr. Cassedy and Barbara

Pascagoula Public Library
Genealogy & Local History Dept.
Wilkes Family

150 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

Zakrewski were married at Washington, D. C. in 1960. They have no children.

ccc. CAROLYN CASSEDY, daughter of James William, II and Mary Elizabeth (Applewhite) Cassedy, was born at Brookhaven, Mississippi on 5 January 1934. She attended public schools at Brookhaven and Alexandria, Virginia and went on to Mt. Vernon Junior College and "Ole Miss". She married Capt. Thomas Birge at Yuma, Arizona in 1956. Mr. Birge is a graduate of Virginia Military Institute. Following graduation, he entered the U. S. Air Force and is now stationed at Colorado Springs, Colorado. Capt. and Mrs. Birge have the following issue:

Bobby Birge, born 20 May 1957

Lisa Birge, born 20 January 1960

Thomas Birge, born 9 March 1961

ddd. NANCY CASSEDY, daughter of James William, II and Mary Elizabeth (Applewhite) Cassedy, was born at Brookhaven, Mississippi on 3 July 1938. She attended public schools of Alexandria, Va. & Mt. Vernon Seminary and went on to Mt. Vernon Junior College. She married Robert Strang Banks. Mr. Banks is a graduate of the University of Virginia. They reside at 8519 Hazlewood Drive, Bethesda, Maryland, where Mr. Banks is associated with Banks & Lee, Inc., Building Contractors. They have the following issue:

Scott Christopher Banks, born 8 June 1959

Lynn Hartman Banks, born 13 June 1961

Cameron Gay Banks, born 3 Aug. 1962

dd. PAULINE APPLEWHITE, daughter of Albert Seth and Ida Gay (Bass) Applewhite, was born at Lumberton, Mississippi on 22 February 1907. She attended elementary and high schools of Jackson, Mississippi and went on to the University of Mississippi, where she received the B. A. degree with the class of 1927. She married William Thelin Saunders, son of Howard Watkins and Margaret (Hollyday) Saunders, on 26 November 1935 at her parents' summer home, "Hubbard's Well", near Jackson, Mississippi.

William Thelin Saunders received his early schooling in his home town of Hampton, Virginia. After graduation from high school he went on to Virginia Military Institute, where he received the B. S. degree in 1930. Immediately upon graduation at V. M. I. he enrolled in the United States Army Reserve Corps. He was called to active duty in the rank of second lieutenant on 15 June 1942 and assigned to the Army Service Forces at Fortress Monroe,

ABNER WILKES

151

Virginia, where he remained in service until released in the rank of major on 30 June 1946. Since leaving college, Mr. Saunders has been active in the insurance business. He takes an active interest in the affairs of St. John's Church of Hampton, where he has served as Senior Warden. The family resides at 3715 Chesapeake Avenue, Hampton, Virginia. Major Saunders is a member of Hampton Rotary Club. The following children have been born to Major and Mrs. Saunders:

aaa. William Thelin Saunders, Jr., born 13 July 1937 is a graduate of Hampton Sydney College and employed with J. C. West, Inc., Securities.

bbb. Margaret Gay Saunders

bbb. MARGARET GAY SAUNDERS, daughter of William Thelin and Pauline (Applewhite) Saunders, was born at Hampton, Virginia on 9 December 1940. After graduating at Hampton High School she went on to Mary Baldwin College, Staunton, Virginia. She married Richard Allen Hayes. They reside at 4011 Chesapeake Avenue, Hampton, Virginia. Mr. Hayes received his B. A. degree from Randolph Macon College, Ashland, Virginia in 1962. He is presently General Agent for Protective Life Insurance Co. They have the following issue:

Richard Kelly Hayes, born 19 Sept. 1961

ee. HENRY BUTLER APPLEWHITE, adopted son of Dr. Albert Seth and Ida Gay (Bass) Applewhite, was born 23 February 1917. Although adopted as Henry Butler Applewhite, he now uses the name of Charles H. Applewhite. He is a veteran of World War II, with service in the South Pacific area. While on duty in Australia, he met and married Patricia Ann, daughter of Frank and Mary M. (Drinkwater) Foley, at Sidney, Australia, on 4 November 1944. Patricia Ann was born in Orange, New South Wales, Australia, on 6 July 1925. They reside at 1825 California Avenue, Reno, Nevada, where Mr. Applewhite engages in the automobile business. The following children have been born of this marriage:

Colleen Mary Applewhite, born 17 May 1951

Kim Kathleen Applewhite, born 15 March 1954

e. CORA MABEL BASS, daughter of Isaac Esau and Mary Eliza (Wilkes) Bass, was born near Bunker Hill, Marion County, Mississippi, on 29 July 1881. Her elementary schooling was in the

152 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

public and "pay" schools at Bunker Hill and vicinity. She attended Columbia High School, Columbia, Mississippi, and Mississippi State College for Women. Having decided upon a medical career, she attended the Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania with her sister, Mary Elizabeth, and both obtained their degrees of Doctor of Medicine in 1904.

Doctor Bass began the practice of general medicine, with particular emphasis on the diseases of women, at New Orleans, Louisiana, in 1904. She was one of five founders of the New Orleans Dispensary for Women and Children in 1905 and continued in general practice until her marriage in 1908. She is a member of the John Rolfe Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, having joined under the military service of Esau Bass. She has contributed generously to the A. A. Pigford Student Loan Fund at Clarke Memorial College, Newton, Mississippi, in memory of her late husband, and to many other worthy causes.

Dr. Cora Mabel Bass and Arthur Algernon Pigford, son of Timothy Daniel and Catherine (Satcher) Pigford, were married at the home of her parents in Lumberton, Mississippi, on 25 August 1908. Mr. Pigford received his early education in the public schools of Causeyville, Mississippi, and then attended Draughn's Business College, Nashville, Tennessee. After leaving college, he was a traveling salesman for a wholesale dry goods firm in New Orleans, Louisiana, for a few years, and was in the mercantile business in Meridian, Mississippi, from 1907 to 1911. Mr. and Dr. Pigford bought a choice tract of land, known as the "Big Level", near Lumberton, Mississippi and there established the Pigford Nurseries, which became one of the largest nurseries in the state devoted to the propagation and sale of ornamental plants. They sold the "Big Level" in 1946 and moved to Lumberton to live in retirement.

Mr. Pigford was a director of the First National Bank of Lumberton; a charter member of the Mississippi Florists' and Nurserymen's Association; a charter member of the Lumberton Rotary Club; a member of the Board of Trustees of Pearl River Junior College, Poplarville, Mississippi. He was a deacon of the First Baptist Church of Lumberton and contributed much to that institution. Mr. Pigford died on Sunday afternoon 8 January 1956 at the Lumberton Citizens Hospital of a heart condition that followed a stroke on December 26, 1955. Burial was in the Lumberton Cemetery. A son, who died unnamed in infancy, was the only child born to this couple.

ABNER WILKES

153



f. ISAAC HOUSTON BASS, son of Isaac Esau and Mary Eliza (Wilkes) Bass, was born in a log-cabin on the family farm near what is now Bunker Hill, Marion County, Mississippi on 3 July 1886. He attended grade school at the nearby Bunker Hill and later at Lumberton, Mississippi. He completed his high school education at the Mooney School, Murfreesboro, Tennessee. With an athletic scholarship he was to attend Vanderbilt University, but instead enrolled at Tulane University, where he could be with his two sisters who had established themselves in the practice of medicine in New Orleans. He received his B. A. degree at Tulane with the class of 1910.

He was active in athletics at Mooney School and at Tulane University. At Tulane he played on the varsity football team and was the captain and manager of the baseball team from 1907 to 1910. He was a member of the "T" Club of Tulane. In addition to being a member of Phi Kappa Sigma social fraternity, he was elected to Kappa Delta Phi, honorary leadership fraternity, based upon leadership in campus activities and university affairs and loyalty to Tulane.

After graduation at Tulane, he returned to Lumberton, Mississippi and took an active part in the management and operation of the I. E. Bass & Sons Pecan Company which had recently been established by his father. During the years immediately following World War I, I. H. Bass bought and closed out several small pecan nurseries along the Mississippi Gulf Coast, and for a few years his time was divided between Lumberton and the Coast. The nurseries on the Coast having been disposed of about 1925, Houston purchased his father's interest in the Lumberton development and changed its name to the Bass Pecan Company, which for years has been known as the largest pecan nursery in the world.

Lumber made the town of Lumberton, but it was the Bass Pecan Company that saved it. Before the Edward Hines Lumber Company had exhausted the available virgin pine timber for many

Pascagoula Public Library
Genealogy & Local History Dept.
Wilkes Family

154 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

miles in every direction, Lumberton was a thriving sawmill town with the largest mill in South Mississippi. It was in 1928 that the Hines Company closed down their mill and moved it to Oregon and this brought about an immediate unemployment situation that was worsened by the depression of the 1930s. Lumberton was on the verge of becoming a ghost town. Mr. Bass sensed the seriousness of the situation and expanded his business in every way possible to create work for additional employees, and thereby was in a large measure responsible for saving the town. Lumberton weathered the depression and is now a good business town with several industries that have largely stabilized employment. One of the town's most impressive buildings, the U. S. Post Office, was built as a result of the immense mail business of the Bass Pecan Company that has sent out over a million catalogues in one season. He recently gave 70 acres of his best land to the town for an air field.

Besides operating the pecan nursery, Mr. Bass has many other interests, such as: pecan orchards of about 1800 acres; raising, buying, and selling cattle; care and conservation of thousands of acres of pine timber. Fishing is his recreation and hobby and has led to the development of numerous small lakes and ponds on his 25,000 acres of land. He is a true disciple of Izaak Walton and follows the latter's tip to "have the day's catch for supper that day while it is fresh".

During the period of the depression of the 1930s Mr. Bass bought for its taxes considerable undeveloped and unimproved cut-over lands, believing that the growth of the pine timber would eventually prove it to be a sound investment should the defaulting tax payers fail to recover their property by paying the back taxes and interest. Some of these unreclaimed lands are in what is now the Baxterville Oil Field and have several producing oil and gas wells. Mr. Bass has given the mineral royalties of many wells to his relatives and employees.

Knowing from experience the value of a college education and how difficult it is for young men without money to obtain, Mr. Bass has done much to assist those in this category. He has directly helped more than one young man through college. He and his late wife established the Mississippi State University Bass Memorial Loan Fund in memory of their deceased son, Isaac Houston, Jr., and Levi Gaston, the brother of Isaac Houston, both of whom attended State. Under terms of the trust, the income from investments of the fund are to be used to assist worthy students in need of funds to complete a college education.

ABNER WILKES

1

In 1957, representatives of the Alabama-Mississippi Conference of Seventh Day Adventists approached Mr. Bass to locate for the land in South Mississippi on which to found a 12-grade boarding high school. After several months and deliberations of several sittings in the area, the choice selection was determined to be part of the Bass Pecan Company land between Lumberton and Purvis, Mississippi. Having observed that this sect believed in combining work with studies and were making it possible for many boys without money to get an education, Mr. Bass donated to this church group 360 acres of his choice land that was in pecan orchard and pine timber. Later, in appreciation of the gift and following upon the deaths of I. H. Bass, Jr. and Mrs. I. E. Bass, the Conference named the school Bass Memorial Academy. The school opened in September 1961 with a physical plant ideally situated in the pecan orchard and valued at over \$2,000,000 and with 164 boarding students. Building is to continue until the school is capable of having 300 students annually. This has been followed up by other gifts including a memorial scholarship fund.

Isaac Houston Bass and Hoyt Fenn, daughter of Clarence Eugene and Faleta Josephine (McNulty) Fenn, were married at the Methodist parsonage, Auburn, Mississippi, Wednesday 11 September 1912. Mrs. Bass died at the Lumberton Citizens Hospital of heart condition on 2 June 1960 and was buried in the Lumberton Cemetery. She took an active interest in the work of the First Baptist Church and in club and civic matter and was a member of the John Rolfe Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. The following children were born of this marriage:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| aa. Isaac Houston Bass, Jr. | bb. Nell Elizabeth Bass |
| cc. Gaston Ray Bass | dd. Mary Josephine Bass |
| ee. Hoyt Fenn Bass | |

aa. ISAAC HOUSTON BASS, JR., son of Isaac Houston and Hoyt (Fenn) Bass, was born at Lumberton, Mississippi, 19 October 1914. He attended the public schools of Lumberton and graduated at Pearl River Junior College, Poplarville, Mississippi. He attended Soule Business College and Tulane University, New Orleans, Louisiana, and went on to Mississippi State College, where he received his B. S. degree in 1936. Following graduation at State, he gave his full time to the interest of the Bass Pecan Company and became its vice-president. He was interested in growing things, people, trees, flowers. He was a particularly active member of the Board of Trustees of the Lumberton school system and since his Eagle Scout days was a Scout leader and was a director of the Tung Belt Area

156 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

Scout Council. He was devotedly interested in spiritual conservation, and was a vestryman of Trinity Episcopal Church, Hattiesburg, Mississippi. He was president of the Mississippi Florists and Nurserymen's Association in 1948; President of the Southeastern Pecan Grower's Association in 1953 and was a member of the Advisory Committee to the Pecan Marketing Association.

7th of June 1956 was a beautiful day, and late in the afternoon Houston took his plane to fly around the various orchards and fields that are parts of the Bass Pecan Company properties. There was a suggestion that he perhaps wanted to get a message to some men working in one of the more distant orchards, as he sometimes did; however, we shall never know. He had passed over the trucks and the men, and then circled as if to fly over them again; the circle was never completed — the plane suddenly plunged to earth and burst into flame, killing Houston instantly.

Houston had flown more than 600 hours, and there was nothing he liked more than to get into the air and fly over the orchards, fields, nursery and pine forests of the Bass Pecan Company. He loved the sight of growing trees and the green pastures, the beautiful changes made in the landscapes of South Mississippi over the years that he had worked at Lumberton.

Isaac Houston Bass, Jr. and Edith Ellen Brown, daughter of Claude and Mamie (Dobbs) Brown of Jackson, Mississippi, were married at Saint Andrews Chapel in Jackson on 10 June 1936. They had the following children born to them:

Isaac Houston Bass, III, born 26 June 1938
Claude Brown Bass, born 27 Feb. 1944

bb. NELL ELIZABETH BASS, daughter of Isaac Houston and Hoyt (Fenn) Bass, was born at Lumberton, Mississippi, on 31 August 1918. She attended grammar and high schools at Lumberton; graduated at Perkinston Junior College, Perkinston, Mississippi; attended the University of Texas during summer, also attended Tulane University. She is a member of the John Rolfe Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Nell Elizabeth Bass and Michael Joseph Eubanks, son of David W. and Nannie (Bailey) Eubanks of Lucedale, Mississippi, were married 21 March 1936. Mr. Eubanks has the following degrees: B.A. from Mississippi Southern College and M.A. from Tulane University. He has attended the University of North Carolina, working for his doctorate. He has taught in high school and in Mississippi Southern College. He enlisted in the United States Naval Reserve Corps at New Orleans, Louisiana, on 2 February 1944 and was

ABNER WILKES

157

promoted to Lieutenant (J.G.) in June 1945. He served at sea in the Pacific Theater during the greater part of his active service, and was released from active duty 6 March 1946. The family presently (1962) reside in their beautiful home at Lumberton, where Mr. Eubanks is a realtor. They have the following children:

aaa. Nell Elizabeth Eubanks bbb. Michael Ray Eubanks
ccc. Mary Wilkes Eubanks ddd. David Bass Eubanks
eee. Gaston Ward Eubanks

aaa. NELL ELIZABETH EUBANKS, daughter of Michael Joseph and Nell Elizabeth (Bass) Eubanks, was born at Lumberton, Mississippi, on 8 July 1938. She attended grade and high school at Lumberton and went to Abbot Academy, Andover, Massachusetts, where she graduated in 1956. She then went to Vassar College, and obtained her B.A. degree in 1960. Nell married Ensign Van Carlton Temple, Jr., U. S. Navy at the First Methodist Church in Lumberton on 17 June 1961. Reverend A. L. Meadows of the First Methodist Church, Greenwood, Mississippi, officiated. He is the son of Doctor Van Carlton and Margaret (Turner) Temple of Hattiesburg, Mississippi. Ensign Temple is a graduate of Hattiesburg High School, and attended Marion Institute, Marion, Alabama, before entering the United States Naval Academy from which he graduated 7 June 1961. Since his graduation at the Naval Academy, Ensign Temple has had the following active service:

Plebe Detail, 28 June to 28 Aug. 1961
Student at Naval Air Station, Pensacola
Naval Auxiliary Air Station, Meridian, Miss.
Naval Air Station, Brunswick, Ga., and is now at
Naval Air Station, Lemoore, California.

The following children have been born to Ensign and Mrs. Temple at Meridian, Mississippi:

Elizabeth Turner Temple, born 24 March 1962
Van Michael Temple, born 26 October 1963

cc. GASTON RAY BASS, son of Isaac Houston and Hoyt (Fenn) Bass, was born at Lumberton, Mississippi, on 16 November 1920. He received his early schooling at Lumberton and was the valedictorian of his high school class in 1936. He has the following college degrees: B.A. from the University of Mississippi 1939; M.A. from the University of Mississippi 1946.

He served with the U. S. Army Services of Supply at New Orleans, Louisiana from 1942 to 1944 and was medically discharged as a sergeant, following which he worked with the labor department of the New York Central Railroad until the conclusion of

Pascagoula Public Library
Genealogy & Local History Dept.
Wilkes Family

158 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

World War II. He was with the Bass Pecan Company of Lumberton, Mississippi, from 1946 to 1949, when he became the administrator of the Grenada Hospital, Grenada, Mississippi and served in that capacity until 1951, when he rejoined the Bass Pecan Company and is their secretary and treasurer.

Ray Bass has been elected President of the Southeastern Pecan Growers Association for 1961-62-63; President of the Federated Pecan Growers' Associations of the United States for 1963-64; President of Mississippi Nurserymen's Association 1963-64; President of Southern Nurserymen's Associations 1963-64; served as President of the Mississippi Florists' & Nurserymen's Association 1959-60; served as Vice-President of the Mississippi Association of Hospital Governing Boards in 1960, and is presently on the Board of Directors of this organization; and serves as Secretary of the Mississippi Mineral & Royalty Owners Association.

Ray Bass serves as a Director of the Lumberton State Bank; of the Pearl River County Farmers Co-Operative (AAL); of Gold-Kist Pecans (AAL), a division of Mississippi Federated Co-Operatives and Cotton Producers Association; as a Trustee of the Lumberton Citizens Hospital; and is Secretary-Treasurer of Bass Minerals Management Corporation, and Vice-President of Bass Development Corporation.

He is a member of the National Honorary Council of the Institute of Latin-American Studies of the University of Southern Mississippi; Lions Club; Pi Kappa Alpha; Director of Mississippi State University Development Corporation; State Y.M.C.A. He is an accomplished pianist and has studied at the Mannes School, New York, and the Aspen Institute of Music, Aspen, Colorado; he also is an accomplished organist, and is the organist for the Lumberton Methodist Church.

Gaston Ray Bass and Ellen Louise Avent, daughter of Dr. James Kirl and Louise (Thurmon) Avent, were married at Grenada, Mississippi on 4 April 1947. This marriage ended by divorce on 21 April 1952. The following child was born of this marriage:

Ivan Kirl Bass, born 1 Nov. 1949

Gaston Ray Bass married, second, Caroline Roberts, daughter of Fisher H. and Jane (Ayraud) Roberts, in the Wynne Chapel of Highland Park Presbyterian Church in Dallas, Texas, on 10 March 1956. The following children have been born of this union:

Cassandra Jane Bass, born 17 Sept. 1957

Roberts Ayraud Bass, born 27 Dec. 1958

dd. MARY JOSEPHINE BASS, daughter of Isaac Houston

ABNER WILKES

159

and Hoyt (Fenn) Bass, was born at Lumberton, Mississippi, on 5 September 1923. She obtained her early schooling at Lumberton, where she graduated from high school with the class of 1939, following which she attended Mississippi State College for Women and Duke University. Later she obtained her B.A. degree from Mississippi Southern College.

Mary Josephine Bass and Francis Vernon High, son of Sidney R. and Effie (Newton) High of Durham, North Carolina, were married on 6 January 1941. They reside at Lumberton, Mississippi, where Mr. High is Vice-President, Bass Pecan Company; Vice-President and Charter Member of Board of Directors, Mississippi Minerals and Royalty Owners Association; Charter Member and Second Vice-President, Mississippi Cattlemens Association; Member, International House, New Orleans; Member, New Orleans Athletic Club; Member Boston Club, New Orleans; Member Capital City Club, Jackson; Member Southeastern Pecan Growers Association. The following children have been born of this union:

aaa. Sidney Houston High, born 2 Dec. 1941

bbb. Francis Stephen High, born 28 Aug. 1948

ccc. Sherrill Wilkes High, born 24 Oct. 1952

ddd. Susan Gay High, born 5 Jan. 1954

aaa. SIDNEY HOUSTON HIGH, son of Francis Vernon and Mary Josephine (Bass) High, was born at Durham, North Carolina, on 2 December 1941. He attended the public school at Lumberton, Mississippi and spent junior year at Episcopal High School, Arlington, Virginia before entering Texas Christian University, where he has been on the Dean's list for two years and is majoring in economics and expects to graduate in August, 1962. He has written several articles in economic journals and campus papers.

Sidney Houston High and Joan Hall, daughter of Myrl and Marie (Sumrall) Hall, were married on 6 September 1959 and they have the following issue:

Sean Marie High, born 25 Sept. 1960

ee. HOYT FENN BASS, daughter of Isaac Houston and Hoyt (Fenn) Bass, was born at Lumberton, Mississippi, on 24 December 1930. She received her early schooling at Lumberton. After graduating at Lumberton High School, she attended Bellhaven College, Jackson, Mississippi, and Mississippi Southern College.

g. LEVI GASTON BASS, son of Isaac Esau and Mary Eliza (Wilkes) Bass, was born near what is now Bunker Hill, Marion County, Mississippi. His early education was at Bunker Hill and Lumberton, Mississippi, and Rugby Academy, New Orleans, Louisiana.

160 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

siana. He graduated from Mooney School, Murfreesboro, Tennessee, and later attended what was then the Mississippi Agricultural and Mechanical College, Starkville, Mississippi, this institution is now the Mississippi State University. He took an active part in athletics at both Mooney and the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Mississippi, and at the latter was on the varsity football team. Gaston died of spinal meningitis in New Orleans, Louisiana, on 17 December 1911, while in his senior year at college. He was the wit of the family and made friends easily. In college he was known as "Corporal" and was one of the most loved and respected of the student body.

h. ZANONA WREATH BASS, daughter of Isaac Esau and Mary Eliza (Wilkes) Bass, was born near the present Bunker Hill, Marion County, Mississippi, on 8 January 1893. She attended public schools at Lumberton, Mississippi. From Lumberton High School she went to Blue Mountain College, Blue Mountain, Mississippi, and to H. Sophie Newcomb College, where she graduated in 1914 and while there was one of a group of students that designed and executed a piece of Newcomb embroidery that took the Grand Prize at the San Francisco World's Fair. She is a member of the John Rolfe Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution under the military service of Esau Bass. She is a member of the Lumberton Woman's Club, an affiliate of the Federated Women's Club.

Zanona Wreath Bass and Henry William Greer (9-12-1885 — 2-28-1936), son of Daniel Stephen and Josephine (Moseley) Greer of Louisville, Kentucky, were married in Lumberton, Mississippi, on 12 October 1923. Mr. Greer was educated in Louisville, Kentucky, and at the time of his marriage was a bookkeeper for the Edward Hines Lumber Company of Lumberton. He was a Mason; a Rotarian; a member of the City Council of Lumberton; and was Chairman of the Board of Deacons of the First Baptist Church of Lumberton. When the Hines Lumber Company moved away from Lumberton, Mr. and Mrs. Greer established and operated a pecan shelling and florist business. The pecan business was discontinued after Mr. Greer's death, but Mrs. Greer continued the florist work for many years. The following child was born of this marriage:

aa. Henry William Greer, Jr.

aa. HENRY WILLIAM GREER, JR., son of Henry William and Zanona Wreath (Bass) Greer, was born in New Orleans, Louisiana, on 17 August 1925. He completed elementary and high school at Lumberton, Mississippi. After graduation from high school, he went to Mississippi State College where he received a B.S. degree

ABNER WILKES

161

in 1946. He then attended Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas, graduating in 1948 with the degree of Master of Religious Education.

Mr. Greer is a veteran of World War II. He enlisted as apprentice seaman in the United States Naval Reserve on 4 August 1944 and underwent the following training and schooling; Boot training at Camp Perry, Williamsburg, Virginia; radio instructions at Manley Pre-Radio School, Chicago, Illinois; advanced electronics at the School for Electricians and Radiomen, Gulfport, Mississippi. While at Gulfport, he was selected for officer training and was ordered to Northwestern University for the course given midshipmen at that institution. Owing to physical disability, partial deafness following an attack of mumps, he did not complete the course at Northwestern and was given an honorable discharge from the Naval Reserve on 31 May 1945.

In his early life, Mr. Greer took an active interest in religious work. He was President of the Mississippi Baptist Student Union at the time of his enlistment in the Navy. He served as Director of the Baptist Student Union and religious activities of students at the following institutions of higher education in Atlanta, Georgia, from September 1948 through December 1952: Agnes Scott College, Emory Nursing School, Emory University, Georgia Baptist Hospital Nursing School, Georgia Institute of Technology, Crawford Long Nursing School, Atlanta Division of the University of Georgia, and Southern Business University. From 1 January 1953 to 1 January 1960, he was Director of the Baptist Student Union at the University of California, Berkeley, California. Since 1 January 1960, he has been serving as Director of the Baptist Student Union at Appalachian State Teachers College, Boone, North Carolina. He resides at 307 Crest Drive, Boone.

While in Fort Worth, Texas, attending college, Henry William met Miss Dorothy Lee Harris, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Harris of Drexel, North Carolina, and they were married at the First Baptist Church on 20 June 1948. Miss Harris, before her marriage, attended Mars Hill College, Cecil's Business College, and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary where she received the degree of Bachelor of Religious Education in 1947. The following children have been born of this union:

Keith William Greer, born 28 Feb. 1950

Infant daughter, died at birth on 2 May 1952

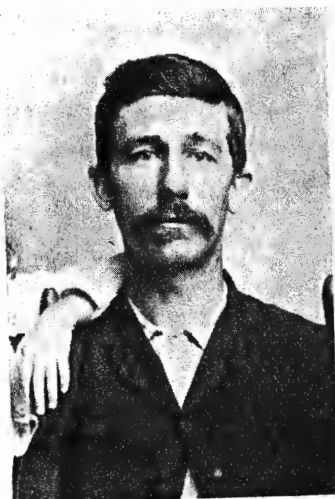
Dianne Lee Greer, born 26 Oct. 1953

Elizabeth Dot Greer, born 15 Dec. 1956

Martha Annette Greer, born 3 Jan. 1959

162 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

B. WILEY P. HARRIS WILKES



WILEY PORTER HARRIS WILKES, son of Abner James and Elizabeth Ann (Buckley) Wilkes, was born near what is now Prentiss, Mississippi on 25 November 1860. He died at Wesson, Mississippi on 22 February 1925 and was buried at Wesson.

He was named for Wiley Porter Harris, a prominent lawyer, judge, and congressman of Mississippi. Before his first marriage, Mr. Wilkes lived with his parents. After this marriage, he farmed for a few years and then gave that up to work in his brother-in-law's mill complex where he lost his right arm. Some months after this accident, and following his recovery from surgery, he

moved to Wesson, Mississippi in 1894 and engaged in truck farming.

Wiley P. Harris Wilkes and Nancy Elizabeth Mikell (1 Dec. 1857 - 24 Jan. 1910) were married in Lawrence County, Mississippi on 16 December 1880. They had the following children born to them:

- a. Elizabeth Ann Wilkes
- b. John James Wilkes
- c. Lee Roy Wilkes, b. 29 May 1888; d. 19 Aug. 1893
- d. Emma Belle Wilkes
- e. Lourany Gertrude Wilkes
- f. Nellie May Wilkes

Wiley P. Harris Wilkes married, after the death of his first wife, Mary Terry of Wesson, Mississippi and they had no issue.

a. ELIZABETH ANN (BESSIE) WILKES, daughter of Wiley P. Harris and Nancy Elizabeth (Mikell) Wilkes, was born at Blountville (now Prentiss), Mississippi, on 14 October 1882 and died on 19 June 1946 and was buried at Amiable Cemetery, Glenmora, Louisiana. She married Charles Jackson Sanders at Wesson, Mississippi, on 24 December 1905. They lived in the Whitesand community of what is now Jefferson Davis County, where Mr. Sanders engaged in logging. The following children were born of this marriage:

ABNER WILKES

163

- aa. Era Inez Sanders
- bb. Infant son, born 1 May 1908, lived 3 days
- cc. Sarah Elizabeth Sanders, born 25 July 1909
- dd. Demila Lee Sanders, born 20 June 1911
- ee. Harris Spurgeon Sanders, born 25 April 1913
- ff. John Charles Sanders, born 13 Nov. 1915
- gg. Juel Viola Sanders, born 9 Sept. 1917
- hh. Infant daughter, born 1 June 1920, lived one hour
- ii. Kenton Leroy Sanders, born 28 June 1921
- jj. Minnie Belle Sanders, born 29 Aug. 1923

ee. ERA INEZ SANDERS, daughter of Charles Jackson and Elizabeth Ann (Wilkes) Sanders, was born in the Whitesand community of what is now Jefferson Davis County, Mississippi, on 14 October 1906. She married Embree Everett Holloway at Alexandria, Louisiana, on 2 February 1928. They lived on Route 1 (Box 156), Forest Hill, Louisiana, where Mr. Holloway was a carpenter and died on 19 April 1959. He was buried at Alexandria Memorial Gardens, Alexandria, Louisiana. The following children were born of this marriage:

Charles Beachman Holloway, born 27 Sept. 1931
Thyra Gene Holloway, born 12 Feb. 1933
Falis Embree Holloway, born 17 Sept. 1934
James Vance Holloway, born 28 June 1937

b. JOHN JAMES WILKES, son of Wiley P. Harris and Nancy Elizabeth (Mikell) Wilkes, was born at Blountville (now Prentiss), Mississippi, on 22 June 1883 and died at Wynne, Arkansas, on 10 February 1928, and was buried at Cogbill Cemetery in that city. He moved to Wesson, Mississippi with his family when he was a child and lived there until 1919, when he moved to Wynne, Arkansas. While living at Wesson, he was deputy sheriff of Copiah County; in Wynne, he owned and operated a grocery store that his family has continued to operate in his name. He married Pairolea Breedon at Wesson, Mississippi, on 23 December 1903 and they had the following issue:

- aa. Lizabeth Anna Wilkes
- bb. Annie Belle Wilkes
- cc. John LeRoy Wilkes
- dd. Pearl Wilkes
- ee. Alma Lee Wilkes
- ff. Myrtle Hazel Wilkes

aa. LIZABETH ANNA WILKES, daughter of John James and Pairolea (Breedon) Wilkes, was born at Wesson, Mississippi, on 8

Pascagoula Public Library
Genealogy & Local History Dept.
Wilkes Family

164 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

January 1905. She married Lee Padgett at Wynne, Arkansas, on 8 July 1934. They live at 905 North State Street, Forrest City, Arkansas, where Mr. Padgett is a salesman. They have no children.

bb. ANNIE BELLE WILKES, daughter of John James and Pairolea (Breedon) Wilkes, was born at Wesson, Mississippi, on 6 December 1907. She married James A. Hale at Forrest City, Arkansas, on 24 May 1925. They reside at West Helena, Arkansas, where Mr. Hale is farming. The following children have been born of this marriage:

James Wilkes Hale, born 25 Feb. 1930; with U.S.A.F.
1949-1952

Betty Jean Hale, born 12 June 1932
Norma Faye Hale, born 25 Aug. 1934
Patricia Lea Hale, born 16 April 1940

cc. JOHN LEROY ("ROY") WILKES, son of John James and Pairolea (Breedon) Wilkes, was born at Wesson, Mississippi, on 29 December 1910. He resides at Mountain View, Arkansas, where he operates a small grocery store and does some hunting and fishing on the side. He reports that fishing is good and there are "lots" of deer and squirrels in the woods nearby. He also finds time for gardening, flowers being a hobby of his. He served as County Treasurer from 1940 to 1952. He is a Mason; was Worshipful Master in 1940 and is an honorary member of Wynne Lodge Number 497 of the Free and Accepted Masons. He married Blanche Sweaza at Forrest City, Arkansas, on 1 April 1945. They have an adopted son:

aaa. Donald Edwin Sweaza, born 6 Oct. 1936

aaa. DONALD EDWIN SWEAZA, adopted son of John LeRoy and Blanche (Sweaza) Wilkes, was born at Wynne, Arkansas, on 6 October 1936. He is now (1960) serving in the United States Air Force, stationed at Millington, Tenn. He married Phyless Borge at Albuquerque, New Mexico, on 20 August 1953 and they have the following issue:

Mark Sweaza, born 1 April 1955
Michael Sweaza, born 6 March 1957
Kathy Sweaza, born 4 June 1959

dd. PEARL WILKES, daughter of John James and Pairolea (Breedon) Wilkes, was born at Wesson, Mississippi, on 18 November 1911. She married Harry Edison Marshall at Harrisburg, Arkansas, on 18 March 1934. Mr. Marshall is a veteran of World War II with service in the United States Navy from March 1944 to 30 October 1945. They reside at 217 4th St., Wynne, Arkansas, where

ABNER WILKES

165

Mr. Marshall is a salesman. The following children have been born to this couple:

aaa. Harry Wilkes Marshall
bbb. David Roy Marshall
ccc. Bobby Lee Marshall, born 28 May 1943
ddd. Susie Lynn Marshall, born 30 Dec. 1952

aaa. HARRY WILKES MARSHALL, son of Harry Edison and Pearl (Wilkes) Marshall, was born at Wynne, Arkansas, on 15 September 1935. It is to be noted that he spells his middle name "Wilks". He resides at 212 Lawrence Street, Ponca City, Oklahoma, where he is a department manager of the J. C. Penney Company. Mr. Marshall married Ellen Mae Snyder in the Presbyterian Church at Cherry Valley, New York, where she was born, 8 August 1957, and they have the following children:

Harry Wilkes Marshall, Jr., born 19 May 1958
Gina Louise Marshall, born 8 April 1960

bbb. DAVID ROY MARSHALL, son of Harry Edison and Pearl (Wilkes) Marshall, was born at Memphis, Tennessee, on 13 August 1937. He resides at 333 Forrest Park, West Memphis, Arkansas, and is in public relations, Bank of West Memphis. He married Mrs. Vernon Collins Byrd at West Memphis, Arkansas on 16 Oct. 1961. She had the following child:

Cynthia Ruth Byrd, born 29 Oct. 1958

ee. ALMA LEA WILKES, daughter of John James and Pairolea (Breedon) Wilkes, was born at Wesson, Mississippi, on 23 November 1913. She married Thomas Brown Foster of Wynne, Arkansas, on 30 October 1929. He served in the United States Army from February 1944 to December 1945. The family lives at 211 Canal Street, Wynne, Arkansas, where Mr. Foster is with the Gulf Oil Corporation. Both sons have had military service: John Raymond entered the Air Corps in 1955 and is still with that organization; James Brown served in the Marine Corps from January 1954 to January 1957 and was honorably discharged as a sergeant.

The following children were born to Thomas Brown and Alma Lea (Wilkes) Foster:

Marion Barbara Foster, born 1 Dec. 1930
Tommy Lea Foster, born 12 March 1932
John Raymond Foster, born 26 March 1934
James Brown Foster, born 6 Oct. 1935
Lizabeth Ann Foster, born 12 Aug. 1944

ff. MYRTLE HAZEL WILKES, daughter of John James and Pairolea (Breedon) Wilkes, was born in Wesson, Mississippi, on 3

Pascagoula Public Library
Genealogy & Local History Dept.
Wilkes Family

166 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

March 1920. She married Tennyson Howell, Jr. at Forrest City, Arkansas on 2 January 1944. They live at 614 Church Street, Wynne, Arkansas, where Mr. Howell is the Railway Express Agent. Mr. Howell served in the U. S. Army from 5 March 1942 until his honorable discharge on 1 August 1943. The following children have been born to this family:

- William Harris Howell, born 1 April 1945
- Linda Tennyson Howell, born 2 Sept. 1948
- Tennyson Howell, III, born 4 Oct. 1954
- Ann Jean Howell, born 2 March 1956
- Mary Lou Howell, born 26 Nov. 1958

d. EMMA BELLE WILKES, daughter of Wiley Porter Harris and Nancy Elizabeth (Mikell) Wilkes, was born in the Whitesand community of what is now Jefferson Davis County, Mississippi on 13 April 1887. She died of bronchial pneumonia at the Jefferson Davis County Hospital at Prentiss, Mississippi, on 1 August 1959 after eight weeks of hospitalization following a fall that fractured a hip. She was buried in the Sutton plot of the cemetery at Oakgrove Church, near Prentiss. Her husband died of a heart attack on 18 July 1933, and was the first person to be buried at the Oakgrove Baptist Church Cemetery. Emma Belle Wilkes and Thomas Franklin Sutton, farmer, were married on 30 January 1906 and had the following issue:

- aa. Robert Sutton
- bb. John Frank Sutton

aa. ROBERT SUTTON, son of Thomas Franklin and Emma Belle (Wilkes) Sutton, was born in the Whitesand community of Jefferson Davis County, Mississippi, on 4 December 1906. He lives on Route 3, Prentiss, Mississippi, and engages in farming and carpentry. He married Nellie Mae Barnes of Prentiss on 19 May 1928 and they have the following children born to them:

- aaa. David Harold Sutton
- bbb. Polly June Sutton
- ccc. Patsy Ruth Sutton
- ddd. Penny Rose Sutton, born 29 Sept. 1948

aaa. DAVID HAROLD SUTTON was born 20 March 1935. He lives in Astoria, Oregon. He served in the United States Navy from August 1954 to July 1958. He married Kathryn Arlene Footh of Astoria, Oregon on 2 November 1956 and they have a son:

David Harold Sutton, II, born 30 May 1958

bbb. POLLY JUNE SUTTON was born on 9 October 1937. She married Franklin Kenneth Polk of Prentiss, Mississippi, on 12 June

ABNER WILKES

167

1954 and they have a daughter:

Robin Dale Polk, born 20 May 1959

ccc. PATSY RUTH SUTTON was born at Prentiss, Mississippi, on 5 March 1941. She married Thomas Edward Adkins of Prentiss in December 1956 and to this union has been born the following daughter:

Deborah Ann Adkins, born 7 Jan. 1958

bb. JOHN FRANK SUTTON, son of Thomas Franklin and Emma Belle (Wilkes) Sutton, was born in the Whitesand community of Jefferson Davis County, Mississippi, on 31 January 1912. He married Louvnetta Ross of Silver Creek, Mississippi. They reside at Pompano Beach, Florida and have the following children:

- Juanita Pearl Sutton, born 27 July 1938
- Tommie Jean Sutton, born 29 April 1940
- Betty Lou Sutton, born 6 July 1945
- Patricia Ann Sutton, born 8 Oct. 1947
- Sandra Allene Sutton
- Martha Lee Sutton

e. LOURANY GERTRUDE WILKES, daughter of Wiley P. Harris and Nancy Elizabeth (Mikell) Wilkes, was born at Columbia, Mississippi, on 10 July 1893. She married Homer Banks Davis at Prentiss, Mississippi, on 24 September 1912. They lived at Prentiss, where Mr. Davis engaged in farming and cattle raising until his death from coronary thrombosis on 15 May 1958. The following children were born of this union:

- aa. Annie Lou Davis
- bb. Willard Wilkes Davis

aa. ANNIE LOU DAVIS, daughter of Homer Banks and Lou (Wilkes) Davis, was born at Prentiss, Mississippi, on 27 June 1914. She married Frank Thomas Miller at Prentiss on 12 July 1933. They resided near Prentiss, where Mr. Miller engaged in farming until his death from a heart attack on 28 February 1945. The following children were born of this marriage:

- aaa. Homer Franklin Miller
- bbb. Joe Thomas Miller
- ccc. Bobby Earl Miller, born 5 April 1943

Annie Lou Davis married, second, James C. Magee on 7 December 1948. They live at Prentiss, Mississippi, where Mr. Magee was engaged in the plumbing business before his death from coronary thrombosis on 4 May 1956. There was no issue of this marriage.

aaa. HOMER FRANKLIN MILLER, was born at Prentiss,

Pascagoula Public Library
Genealogy & Local History Dept.
Wilkes Family

168 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

Mississippi, on 24 September 1934. He married Judy Stamps of Prentiss on 28 June 1957 and to this union a son was born:

Michael Kirby Miller, born 18 Nov. 1958

bb. WILLARD WILKES DAVIS, son of Homer Banks and Lou (Wilkes) Davis, was born near Prentiss, Mississippi, on 14 September 1921. He resides at Prentiss, where he is engaged in clerical work. He married Lois Booth at Prentiss on 20 July 1941. Willard served in the infantry of the United States Army during World War II. One child has been born to this couple:

Willard Jefferson Davis, born 20 Aug. 1948

f. NELLIE MAY WILKES, daughter of Wiley P. Harris and Nancy Elizabeth (Mikell) Wilkes, was born at Columbia, Mississippi, on 14 December 1896. She married Troy Sloane Malone at Wesson, Mississippi, on 22 December 1916. They live at Wesson, where Mr. Malone is a dairyman. They have the following children:

- aa. Milfred Troy Malone
- bb. Bessie Lou Malone
- cc. Fred Ray Malone
- dd. Willie Virginia Malone
- ee. Betty Jean Malone
- ff. Mary Nell Malone

aa. MILFRED TROY MALONE, son of Troy Sloane and Nellie May (Wilkes) Malone, was born at Wesson, Mississippi on 15 August 1919. He is a veteran of World War II with the following service: Enlisted in the U. S. Army at Camp Shelby, Mississippi, on 16 June 1941; saw active battle service at Guadacanal, Munda, Bougainville, Vella Lavella, and the Philippines; honorably discharged as staff sergeant at Camp Shelby on 23 July 1945. He entered the Army Reserve Corps upon discharge from active service and joined the National Guard on 22 February 1954 as master sergeant. Milfred Troy Malone and Georgia Marie Thompson of Mayna, Louisiana were married in her home town on 15 December 1945. They live on Route 2, Wesson, Mississippi, where Mr. Malone is Superintendent of Standard Screen Wire. The following children have been born of this marriage:

- Troy Lawrence Malone, born 13 Nov. 1946
- Johnnie Harris Malone, born 26 Oct. 1948
- Charles Dorsey Malone, born 9 Feb. 1950
- Ronnie Dale Malone, born 30 Aug. 1953
- Kenneth Gale Malone, born 9 Nov. 1958

bb. BESSIE LOU MALONE, daughter of Troy Sloane and Nellie May (Wilkes) Malone, was born at Wesson, Mississippi, on 11

ABNER WILKES

169

January 1922. She married Vernie Melvin Corkern at Saint Bernard, Louisiana, on 17 August 1941. He is a veteran of World War II, having entered the United States Army on 28 February 1941 and later was sent to France, where he was in active service for 13 months. He was honorably discharged from the Army on 2 December 1946. His son, Melvin Ray, entered the Army on 15 April 1960 and is stationed at Fort Jackson, South Carolina. The Corkern family reside at Wesson, Mississippi, where Mr. Corkern is a machine operator at a lawn mower plant. Mr. Corkern is a Master Mason. The following children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Corkern:

Melvin Ray Corkern, born 23 June 1943

Marion Howell Corkern, born 17 Dec. 1946

Clyde Dennis Corkern, born 12 July 1949

cc. FRED RAY MALONE, son of Troy Sloane and Nellie May (Wilkes) Malone, was born at Wesson, Mississippi, on 9 January 1924. He is a veteran of World War II with the following service: Enlisted in U. S. Marine Corps at Jackson, Mississippi, on 20 August 1939; served overseas from 6 January 1942 to August 1945 with the Second Marine Division at Guadacanal, Tarawa, and Saipan; was honorably discharged at San Diego, California, in September 1945 as private first class; enlisted in the U. S. Navy as Seaman first class at Jackson, Mississippi, in May 1946 and was honorably discharged as electricians mate third class at Brooklyn, New York, on 1 April 1958. He is a member of the Masonic Order.

Fred Ray Malone and Vera Wilson were married at McAllister, Texas on 24 February 1940, she died without issue on 5 March 1941 and was buried at McAllister. Fred Ray Malone married, second, Darline Matthews at Hazlehurst, Mississippi, on 12 June 1948. They live at 3239 Woodview Drive, Jackson, Mississippi, where Mr. Malone is a department store manager. The following children have been born of this union:

Patricia Darline Malone, born 23 May 1949

Nancy Marie Malone, born 12 Oct. 1950

Robert Morris Malone, born 20 Aug. 1954

dd. WILLIE VIRGINIA MALONE, daughter of Troy Sloane and Nellie May (Wilkes) Malone, was born at Wesson, Mississippi, on 1 October 1927. She married Felix Edgar Scott at Brookhaven, Mississippi, on 5 August 1949 and they reside at Wesson where Mr. Scott is employed. Felix Edgar Scott is a veteran of World War II, having entered the U. S. Army on 4 April 1941 and served 41 months of active duty in the South Pacific. He was honorably discharged on 28 August 1945 as a technician fifth class. The following

Pascagoula Public Library
Genealogy & Local History Dept.
Wilkes Family

170 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

children have been born to the Scotts:

Nellie Troylyn Scott, born 18 Aug. 1950

Roy Wilkes Scott, b. 24 Nov. 1952; d. 25 Nov. 1952

ee. BETTY MALONE, daughter of Troy Sloane and Nellie May (Wilkes) Malone, was born at Wesson, Mississippi, on 20 June 1930. She married William Benjamin Thompson of Mayna, Louisiana, at Brookhaven, Mississippi, on 14 October 1947. They reside at Wesson where Mr. Thompson is a machinist with Standard Screen Wire Company. He is a member of the local Masonic Lodge. The following children have been born of this union:

Judy Elaine Thompson, born 23 Aug. 1949

William Michael Thompson, born 27 Jan. 1951

ff. MARY NELL MALONE, daughter of Troy Sloane and Nellie May (Wilkes) Malone, was born at Wesson, Mississippi, on 25 August 1932. She married Thomas Ray Teasley at Hazlehurst, Mississippi, on 9 November 1951. They live at Hazlehurst, where Mr. Teasley is Street Commissioner. The following children have been born to this couple:

Christine Teasley, born 20 Sept. 1952

Tommy Nell Teasley, born 17 Aug. 1954

3. EVAN ABNER WILKES

EVAN ABNER WILKES, son of Abner James and Elizabeth Ann (Buckley) Wilkes, was born in the Whitesand community, near Prentiss, Mississippi, on 26 October 1862. He died at Gulfport, Mississippi, on 27 September 1930 and was buried at Society Hill Baptist Church Cemetery, near Goss, Mississippi. For a time before his marriage and for a few years thereafter, he was the bookkeeper and a salesman for his brother-in-law, Isaac E. Bass, at Carley, Mississippi. Later he opened his own general store at Goss, Mississippi and operated it for a few years before going to Columbia, Mississippi to live and operate a store there. His store at Columbia burned and he then moved to Gulfport and operated a general store there until his death. He spelled the family name "Wilks", but to avoid confusion the name is spelled "Wilkes" throughout this volume.

Evan Abner Wilkes and Etha Goss, daughter of Dr. Zeno and Louise (Bourne) Goss, were married at Goss, Mississippi, on 3 October 1888 and they had the following issue:

- a. Robert Karl Wilkes
- b. Evan Zeno Wilkes
- c. Jessie Louise Wilkes
- d. Velma Kathryne Wilkes

ABNER WILKES

171

a. ROBERT KARL WILKES, son of Evan Abner and Etha (Goss) Wilkes, was born at Goss, Mississippi, on 8 June 1892. He resides at 1621 Second Street, Gulfport, Mississippi and is retired from active work. He married, first, Johnie Campbell at Columbia, Mississippi and they had no issue. He married, second, Helen Hammers of Gulfport and they had no issue.

b. EVAN ZENO WILKES, son of Evan Abner and Etha (Goss) Wilkes, was born at Goss, Mississippi, on 3 September 1895. He is a veteran of World War I with the following service: Enlisted in the U. S. Army at Jackson, Mississippi, on 3 October 1917; served in France with the 30th Company of 20th Engineers, left the United States for France on 12 November 1917 and returned on 19 May 1919; was honorably discharged at Camp Shelby, Mississippi, on 28 May 1919. Mr. Wilkes operated a general store in Gulfport for many years but is now retired and resides at 2124 Gorman Avenue, Waco, Texas. He married Ivon E. Fauquet at Waco on 16 July 1925 and they have no issue.

c. JESSIE LOUISE WILKES, daughter of Evan Abner and Etha (Goss) Wilkes, was born at Columbia, Mississippi. She married Frank Dent Waits at Brookhaven, Mississippi, on 6 December 1924. They reside at 4927 South Claiborne Avenue, New Orleans, Louisiana, where Mr. Waits is in the automobile business and Mrs. Waits is an employee of the D. H. Holmes department store.

d. VELMA KATHRYNE WILKES, daughter of Evan Abner and Etha (Goss) Wilkes, was born at Columbia, Mississippi, on 20 November 1900. She married Milton Cleod Stegall of Union County, North Carolina, at Columbia on 20 June 1920. He was a son of Nathaniel Culpepper and Leo Rossia (Austin) Stegall. He attended grade schools in Union County, Monroe, and Charlotte, North Carolina; graduated at the Young Men's Christian Association night school in Charlotte; and took correspondence courses with: International Correspondence Schools, Scranton, Pennsylvania; Blackstone Institute and LaSalle Extension University of Chicago, Illinois. Mr. Stegall has been an accountant, a salesman, traveling auditor, and government auditor. He is a deacon, a trustee, and the treasurer of the Trinity Baptist Church, Inc., Greater Biloxi Subdivision, Biloxi, Mississippi. Mr. Stegall is a veteran of World War I with the following service: Enlisted in U. S. Marine Corps on 15 June 1918; trained at Parris Island, South Carolina; arrived Brest, France on 17 August 1918; served in Champagne Sector, Meuse-Argonne, and occupation of the Rhine; returned to the United States on 2 June 1919; honorably discharged at Quantico, Virginia

Pascagoula Public Library
Genealogy & Local History Dept.
Wilkes Family

172 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

on 25 June 1919.

At the present time (1959), the Stegalls live at 4927 South Claiborne Avenue, New Orleans, Louisiana. They have the following children:

- aa. Helen Bernice Stegall
- bb. Milton David Stegall
- cc. Nancy Ann Stegall

aa. HELEN BERNICE STEGALL, daughter of Milton C. and Velma Kathrynne (Wilkes) Stegall, was born at Charlotte, North Carolina, on 25 August 1925 and is living at 859 Beeman Drive, Biloxi, Mississippi. She married Richard E. Watson at Keesler Air Force Base, Biloxi, on 31 March 1945. He served in the United States Air Force during World War II and upon honorable discharge was placed in the Active Reserve Corps with the National Guard. He was recalled to active duty as staff sergeant, and chief mechanic, with C-82 type airplanes. His plane disintegrated at 12,000 feet over New Boston, Texas, on 3 June 1951 and the crew of eight were killed instantly, he was buried near East Liverpool, Ohio. The following children were born to this family:

Milton Edison Watson, born 10 July 1946

Benjamin Franklin Watson, born 15 Sept. 1950

bb. MILTON DAVID STEGALL, son of Milton C. and Velma Kathrynne (Wilkes) Stegall, was born at Hotel Dieu, New Orleans, Louisiana, on 16 January 1930. He resides at 857 Beeman Drive, Biloxi, Mississippi and is an electronics mechanic. He is a graduate of Biloxi High School and was in the U. S. Naval Reserve before induction in the U. S. Army. He saw active service in Korea before being honorably discharged. He married Pauline Webb Wadlington, and they have the following issue:

Phylis Webb Wadlington Stegall

Paula Lois Stegall

cc. NANCY ANN STEGALL, daughter of Milton C. and Velma Kathrynne (Wilkes) Stegall, was born at Biloxi, Mississippi, on 14 February 1937. She married Walter Head at Trinity Baptist Church, Biloxi, on 8 August 1954. Mr. Head served in the United States Air Force from 22 May 1952 to December 12, 1955, at Keesler Air Force Base, Biloxi, Mississippi and Wiesbaden, Germany. After release from service with an honorable discharge as airman first class, he entered Baylor University and received his B.S. degree on 29 May 1959. He studied for the ministry of the Baptist Church; was pastor of Wellborn Baptist Church, Wellborn, Texas September 1957 through June 1959; is now pastor of Speegleville

ABNER WILKES

173

Baptist Church, rural section of Waco, Texas; entered Southwestern University Baptist Seminary, Forth Worth, Texas, in September 1959. Present address: Route 1, Box 226, Waco, Texas. The following child has been born to this couple:

Karen Ann Head, born 6 Sept. 1955

4. LOU ELIZABETH WILKES

LOU ELIZABETH WILKES, daughter of Abner James and Martha O. (Buckley) Wilkes, was born near what is now Prentiss, Mississippi, on 3 January 1866; she died in her sleep at her home near Prentiss on Sunday 20 January 1952 and was buried in the family plot of the graveyard of Bethany Baptist Church. She married Julius Caesar Burkett, a man of noble traits of character, a devout Baptist, and a successful farmer of the Whitesand community near Prentiss, on 23 January 1882. They had the following issue:

- a. Ina Burkett
- b. Alma Burkett
- c. Mary Burkett

a. INA BURKETT, daughter of Julius Caesar and Lou Elizabeth (Wilkes) Burkett, was born near Prentiss, Mississippi, on 17 June 1886. She married Clyde Ellis Luper on 1 May 1910 and they live in Prentiss, where Mr. Luper is retired from active work. Before retirement he was bookkeeper for the H. C. Polk Trucking Company for eleven years and before that was a Ford automobile dealer at Prentiss for two years. The following children have been born to this couple:

- aa. Elsie Alene Luper
- bb. Mary Elizabeth Luper
- cc. Julius Clyde Luper
- dd. Edwin Ellis Luper

aa. ELSIE ALENE LUPER, daughter of Clyde Ellis and Ina (Burkett) Luper, was born at Prentiss, Mississippi, on 21 April 1911. She married Gordon Ryals Callender at Prentiss on 3 September 1930. They reside at 5110 Homer Avenue, Tampa, Florida, where Mr. Callender is vice-president of Moretrench Corporation. He is a veteran of World War II with service in a Navy Sea Bee unit from November 1942 to October 1945, 33 months of active service was in the Pacific Theater. They have no children.

bb. MARY ELIZABETH LUPER, daughter of Clyde Ellis and Ina (Burkett) Luper, was born at Prentiss, Mississippi, on 12 May 1913. She married Robert Hackley Hemeter at Prentiss on 12 November 1934 and they had a son:

Robert Hackley Hemeter, Jr., born 7 Oct. 1935

Mr. Hemeter died on 15 October 1938 and Mary Elizabeth Luper married Baseral Columbus Clark at Hattiesburg, Mississippi,

Pascagoula Public Library
Genealogy & Local History Dept.
Wilkes Family

174 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

on 20 April 1942. Mr. Clark is a veteran of World War II with 18 months of service in the United States Army. He was a Technical Sergeant in the European Theater of Operations. They live at Prentiss, Mississippi, where Mr. Clark is a distributor for Standard Oil Company. They have the following issue:

Charles Luper Clark, born 18 Feb. 1944

cc. JULIUS CLYDE LUPER, son of Clyde Ellis and Ina (Burkett) Luper, was born at Prentiss, Mississippi, on 5 December 1917. He resides at 3507 Drexel Avenue, Tampa, Florida, where he is a construction maintenance superintendent. He is a veteran of World War II, with service with a Navy Sea Bee unit from 10 October 1942 to 9 December 1945, 37 months were in the Pacific Theater of Operations. He married Shirley Hardee at Valdosta, Georgia, on 30 May 1948 and they have the following issue:

Michael Gordon Luper, born 23 March 1954

Timothy Edward Luper, born 25 Dec. 1956

dd. EDWIN ELLIS LUPER, son of Clyde Ellis and Ina (Burkett) Luper, was born at Prentiss, Mississippi, on 13 September 1921. He lives at Midland, Texas, where he is a geologist for Tennessee Gas Company. He is a veteran of World War II with three years of service as a liaison pilot in the Army Air Corps and was promoted to Captain before the completion of his service, most of which was in Germany. He married Katherine Quinn at Prentiss on 26 November 1948, she died on 3 May 1959 and was buried at Prentiss. The following children were born of this union:

Kathy Ann Luper, born 22 Dec. 1950

Kenneth Ellis Luper, born 11 May 1954

b. ALMA BURKETT, daughter of Julius Caesar and Lou Elizabeth (Wilkes) Burkett, was born near Prentiss, Mississippi, on 15 August 1889. She married Lowry Rogers (9-28-1888 — 12-24-1932) at Prentiss on 21 May 1927 and no children were born of this union. She married, second, Carl Griffith at Prentiss on 23 February 1944. They own and operate the farm that originally belonged to Alma's parents. No children have been born of this marriage.

c. MARY BURKETT, daughter of Julius Caesar and Lou Elizabeth (Wilkes) Burkett, was born near Prentiss, Mississippi, on 5 June 1893. She married Virgil Beets at Prentiss on 5 Nov. 1917. They live at Silver Creek, Mississippi, where Mr. Beets is a retired cabinet maker. The following children have been born to this family:

Ralph Edmond Beets, born 3 Aug. 1923

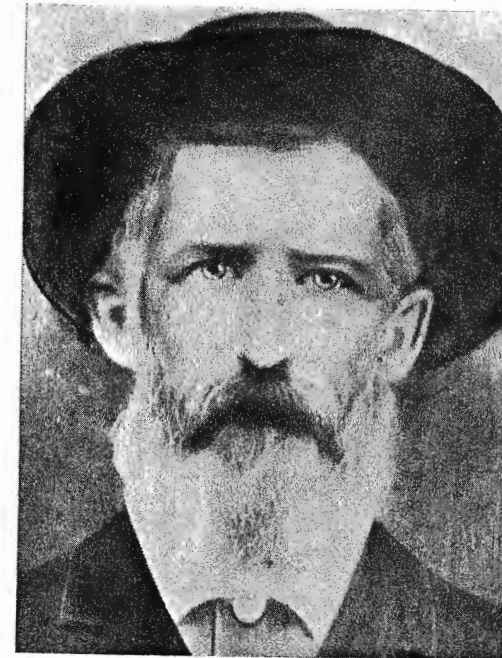
Mary Virginia Beets, born 3 Aug. 1926

ABNER WILKES

175

I. STEPHEN HITCHCOCK PINCKNEY WILKES

STEPHEN HITCHCOCK PINCKNEY WILKES, son of Stephen Hitchcock and Mary (McNeese) Wilkes, was born in Marion County, Mississippi on 25 July 1837. He died on 6 April 1896 and was buried in the Stephen H. Wilkes family cemetery.



Mr. Wilkes was a Confederate veteran, having enlisted along with his three brothers at Williamsburg, Mississippi on 22 February 1862 for a period of two years. Later he was assigned to Company B of the 46th Mississippi Infantry, and had extended his enlistment for three years. He was with this organization in the fighting around Vicksburg, Mississippi prior to the siege of that city and was present with his company during that encounter. Following the surrender of the Confederate forces at Vicksburg on 4 July 1863, he was paroled along with his regiment on 10 July⁵⁸.

Mr. Wilkes was a Baptist and joined Ebenezer Church on 4

58. Records of National Archives, Washington, D. C.

Pascagoula Public Library
Genealogy & Local History Dept.
Wilkes Family

176 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

August 1856⁵⁹.

Stephen H. P. Wilkes and Mary Humphrey Barnes were married by William Fortenberry in Marion County, Mississippi, on 12 January 1858⁶⁰. At first after marriage they lived in what was then Covington County, now Jefferson Davis County, later they lived at the old Wilkes place that was given to Mary Barnes Wilkes by the widow of Stephen Hitchcock Wilkes in 1877. In 1884 they moved to Marion County, Mississippi on land entered by their son, Thomas Pinckney Wilkes. Mr. Wilkes was a farmer. The following children were born of this union.

- | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Mollie Elizabeth Wilkes | 2. Stephen Hitchcock Wilkes |
| 3. Thomas Pinckney Wilkes | 4. Henry Albert Wilkes |
| 5. Benjamin Bryant Wilkes | 6. Samuel Terrell Wilkes |
| 7. Sarah Lorena Wilkes | 8. Claricy Jane Wilkes |
| 9. Virgil William Wilkes | 10. Hattie Minerva Wilkes |
| 11. Jabus Rawls Wilkes | 12. Emily Roberta Wilkes |
| 13. Jessie Caroline Wilkes | |

1. MOLLIE ELIZABETH WILKES

MOLLIE ELIZABETH WILKES, daughter of Stephen Hitchcock Pinckney and Mary Humphrey (Barnes) Wilkes, was born on 12 March 1860 in a cottage on the old Wilkes place in Covington County, Mississippi. She died on 4 December 1939 and was buried at the Speights graveyard near Wilkesburg. She married John Daniel Speights, a farmer, at the old Wilkes place, where her parents were living, on 15 November 1883. The following children were born of this union:

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| a. Ora Lenore Speights | b. Arthur Thomas Speights |
| c. Otho Magee Speights | d. Stephen Ellis Speights |
| e. Oliver David Speights | f. Dovey Walker Speights |
| g. Ophie Barnes Speights | h. Ance McLaurin Speights |
| i. George Dewey Speights | j. Mary Melvina Speights |
| k. Hugh McLeod Speights | l. Janie Claricy Speights |

a. ORA LENORE SPEIGHTS, daughter of John Daniel and Mollie Elizabeth (Wilkes) Speights, was born three miles south of the present Bassfield, Mississippi, on 22 January 1886. She married Henry Stamps on 24 September 1915. They lived and farmed about three miles west of Goss, Mississippi, near the Hathorn community and not far from Pearl River. Mr. Stamps is dead and Mrs. Stamps owns and lives on the John Daniel Speights place. To this union

⁵⁹. Ebenezer Church records

⁶⁰. Marion County, Miss. Marriage records, Book C

ABNER WILKES

177

the following children were born:

- aa. Arthur Thomas Stamps, born 11 April 1916
- bb. Dovey Leigh Stamps, born 11 July 1917

bb. DOVEY LEIGH STAMPS, daughter of Henry and Ora Lenore (Speights) Stamps, was born at Hathorn, Mississippi. She married Daniel Robert Deen on 2 July 1949. They are engaged in farming and cattle raising. They have one child:

Henry Sue Deen, born 29 Jan. 1959

b. ARTHUR THOMAS SPEIGHTS, son of John Daniel and Mollie Elizabeth (Wilkes) Speights, was born at the Speights home, three miles south of the present Bassfield, Mississippi, on 21 April 1887. Mr. Speights was a bookkeeper and general manager for automobile agencies. He owned the Hammond Motor Company of Birmingham, Alabama. He died on 17 August 1949 and was buried at the old Speights graveyard. He married Carrie Ada Nunnally at Birmingham, Alabama, on 8 May 1913. They had no children. At the time of his death, they were living in Miami, Florida. Mrs. Carrie Speights is living now at 432 Church Street, Columbia, Mississippi.

c. OTHO MAGEE SPEIGHTS, son of John Daniel and Mollie Elizabeth (Wilkes) Speights, was born on 4 February 1889 at the home of his parents, three miles south of the present Bassfield, Mississippi. He lives near Bassfield and is engaged in farming and cattle raising. He married Mary Ella Bond on 24 August 1910 at the home of Hattie Minerva (Wilkes) Magee, Columbia, Mississippi. His mailing address is Route 2, Box 343, Bassfield, Mississippi. The following children were born of this marriage:

- aa. Katherine Speights, b. 22 July 1911; d. 31 July 1931
- bb. James Arthur Speights, born 24 Sept. 1914

Mr. Speights's first wife died in November, 1933. He married, second, Edna Mae Dickens, daughter of Earl and Julia Dickens, on 18 April 1936 and they had the following issue:

- cc. Leon Howard Speights, born 14 Jan. 1946
- dd. Marilyn Speights, born 6 June 1948

bb. JAMES ARTHUR SPEIGHTS, son of Otho Magee and Mary Ella (Bond) Speights, was born near Bassfield, Mississippi. He is engaged in raising cattle and does carpentry. He married Sylvia Norwene Rutland, daughter of Fred and Emma (Autry) Rutland, at Columbia, Mississippi, on 20 May 1939. To this union the following children were born:

- aaa. Sylvia Kathrine Speights, born 12 March 1940
- bbb. Beverly Janice Speights, born 10 Jan. 1942

Pascagoula Public Library
Genealogy & Local History Dept.
Wilkes Family

178 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

- ccc. Sue Beth Speights, born 5 Jan. 1944
- ddd. Ella Karen Speights, born 31 July 1948

aaa. SYLVIA KATHRINE SPEIGHTS was born near Bassfield, Mississippi. She attended Mississippi Southern College and majored in medical technology. She married Edward Dyess and they live about four miles southwest of Bassfield, where Mr. Dyess is farming and cattle raising.

d. STEPHEN ELLIS SPEIGHTS, son of John Daniel and Mollie Elizabeth (Wilkes) Speights, was born 31 March 1890 at the old Speights home three miles south of Bassfield, Mississippi. He is a bookkeeper, farmer, and barber. He has served as deputy sheriff of Marion County, Mississippi. Mr. Speights married Geneva Margrette Padgett, daughter of William David and Fannie (Rochester) Padgett, on 27 November 1910 and they have the following issue:

- aa. Fannie May Speights, born 11 Nov. 1911
- bb. Edna Earl Speights, born 13 Feb. 1913
- cc. Carl Dewitt Speights, born 7 Jan. 1915
- dd. Carrie Eloise Speights, born 25 Nov. 1917
- ee. John David Speights, born 12 Jan. 1920
- ff. Ellis Daniel Speights, born 26 Nov. 1923
- gg. Helen Syble Speights, born 24 Sept. 1925
- hh. Minnie Nell Speights, born 2 Dec. 1928
- ii. Annie Laura Speights, born 26 July 1932
- jj. Muriel Glyn Speights, born 26 July 1935
- kk. Wainwright Speights, born 9 Jan. 1945

f. DOVEY WALKER SPEIGHTS, daughter of John Daniel and Mollie Elizabeth (Wilkes) Speights, was born on 20 April 1893. She married Tom A. McNeese in 1911 at Columbia, Mississippi. Mr. McNeese is engaged in farming. Mrs. McNeese died in 1916 and was buried at the old Speights graveyard near Bassfield, Mississippi. No children were born of this union.

g. OPHIE BARNES SPEIGHTS, daughter of John Daniel and Mollie Elizabeth (Wilkes) Speights, was born near Bassfield, Mississippi, on 4 December 1894. She married Clarence Walter Allman at Prentiss, Mississippi, on 13 January 1929. Mr. Allman was engaged in carpenter work along the Mississippi Gulf Coast. He died on 31 August 1959 and was buried at the Old Speights graveyard. Mrs. Allman resides at 22 Olive Street, Columbia, Mississippi. They had no children.

h. ANCE MCLAURIN SPEIGHTS, son of John Daniel and Mollie Elizabeth (Wilkes) Speights, was born near Bassfield, Mississippi, on 15 October 1896. He married Lessie Mae Polk, daughter

ABNER WILKES

179

of David Lee and Tamer Elizabeth (Broome) Polk, on 8 December 1926. They were married at the home of Robert Laird in the Bethel Church Community. Mr. Speights is a carpenter by trade and works for contractors. They reside at 725 Church Street, Columbia, Mississippi. The following children were born of this union:

- aa. Arthurine Speights
- bb. Juanesse Speights

aa. ARTHURINE SPEIGHTS, daughter of Ance McLaurin and Lessie Mae (Polk) Speights, was born at Carson, Mississippi, on 17 December 1927. She married Guy Kendall Myers at Prentiss, Mississippi, on 9 September 1944. They reside at 805 Rogers Avenue, Columbia, Mississippi. Mr. Myers is branch manager at Columbia for the Petrolaine Gas Company of New Orleans, Louisiana. They have the following children:

Patsy Ann Myers, born 7 Aug. 1948

Carol Jean Myers, born 31 May 1954

bb. JUANESSE SPEIGHTS, daughter of Ance McLaurin and Lessie (Polk) Speights, was born at Carson, Mississippi, on 2 May 1929. She married William Jesse Miller on 6 July 1951 at the Carson Baptist Church. Mr. Miller is a traveling salesman. They reside at 820 North Pierce Avenue, New Orleans, Louisiana.

j. MARY MELVINA SPEIGHTS, daughter of John Daniel and Mollie Elizabeth (Wilkes) Speights, was born at the home of her parents near Bassfield, Mississippi, on 1 April 1900. She married Elbert Clyde Moore on 24 September 1922. They live at 409 Druly Lane Street, Brookhaven, Mississippi, where Mr. Moore is in the lumber business. They have the following issue:

- aa. Clyde Elizabeth Moore

aa. CLYDE ELIZABETH MOORE, daughter of Elbert Clyde and Mary Melvina (Speights) Moore, was born at Bogalusa, Louisiana on 6 April 1927. She married James M. Reeves at Brookhaven, Mississippi. They reside at 409 Dorsey Lane, Brookhaven, where Mr. Reeves is working for Food and Service, Inc. They have the following issue:

Carle Montgomery Reeves, born 3 February 1949

k. HUGH McLEOD SPEIGHTS, son of John Daniel and Mollie Elizabeth (Wilkes) Speights, was born near Bassfield, Mississippi, on 1 January 1902. He married Elna Carroway, daughter of Robert Ainsworth and Nora Amanda (Deen) Carroway, on 22 February 1928 at the home of her parents near Bassfield. They owned and until 1961 lived in the old Stephen Hitchcock Wilkes home and now live in their new house nearby. Mr. Speights engages in farming and cattle raising. The following children were born of this

Pascagoula Public Library
Genealogy & Local History Dept.
Wilkes Family

180 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

union:

- aa. Bobbie Lee Speights bb. Hughlene Speights
- cc. Gloria June Speights dd. Jimmie Charlotte Speights

aa. BOBBIE LEE SPEIGHTS, daughter of Hugh McLeod and Elna (Carroway) Speights, was born on 22 February 1929, in the home of her grandparents, Mr. & Mrs. Robert A. Carroway, about five miles north of Bassfield, Mississippi. She married Patrick Murphy of Cleveland, Mississippi, on 31 October 1953. They live at Rogers, Arkansas, where Mr. Murphy is a contractor and operates trucks for the Demming Pump Company. The following children have been born to this family:

Sharon Lee Murphy, born 14 Sept. 1959

Karron Lyn Murphy, born 14 Sept. 1959

bb. HUGHLENE SPEIGHTS, daughter of Hugh McLeod and Elna (Carroway) Speights, was born on 29 April 1931 near Bassfield, Mississippi. She married Talmage Wayne Perrott, a Methodist minister. They live at Lottie, Louisiana, where Reverend Perrott is the pastor of the Methodist Church. The following children have been born to them:

Brenda Gail Perrott, born 27 July 1957

James Marshall Perrott, born 28 Oct. 1958

cc. GLORIA JUNE SPEIGHTS, daughter of Hugh McLeod and Elna (Carroway) Speights, was born on 24 June 1937 in the old Stephen Hitchcock Wilkes house, three miles south of Bassfield, Mississippi. She married Reggie Keith Daughdrill on 25 December 1954 in the home of her birth. They live three miles south of Bassfield, Mississippi, where Mr. Daughdrill is engaged in cattle raising and is associated with Tower Loan Brokers of Columbia, Mississippi. They have the following issue:

Wanda June Daughdrill, born 11 May 1959

1. JANIE CLARICY SPEIGHTS, daughter of John Daniel and Mollie Elizabeth (Wilkes) Speights, was born near Bassfield, Mississippi, on 22 July 1904. She married Otho Thomas McNeese on 15 July 1930. They live at Carson, Mississippi, where Mr. McNeese is farming and cattle raising. They have the following issue:

aa. Otho Ralph McNeese

aa. OTHO RALPH McNEESE, was born at Carson, Mississippi, on 7 September 1933. He is employed by Tower Loan Bankers, a finance company of Columbia, Mississippi. He married Vonnie Jean Miller and they have the following issue:

Gay Ann McNeese, born 7 March 1956

Janet Jean McNeese, born 8 May 1957

ABNER WILKES

181

2. STEPHEN HITCHCOCK WILKES

STEPHEN HITCHCOCK WILKES, son of Stephen Hitchcock Pinckney and Mary Humphrey (Barnes) Wilkes, was born on 22 December 1861 at the old Stephen H. Wilkes home, about three miles south of the present Bassfield, Mississippi. He died on his farm near Bunker Hill, Marion County, Mississippi on 25 April 1940 and was buried in the Bunker Hill Cemetery.

Stephen Hitchcock Wilkes and Henrietta Hammonds (28 April 1867 - 13 Nov. 1927) were married in Marion County, Mississippi on 16 January 1884. They had the following children born to them:

- a. Charles Raynor Wilkes
- b. Belle Ophelia Wilkes
- c. Carrie Lena Wilkes
- d. Estelle Wilkes
- e. Goldie Wilkes
- f. Austin Leslie Wilkes

a. CHARLES RAYNOR WILKES, son of Stephen Hitchcock and Henrietta (Hammonds) Wilkes, was born on 21 June 1886 near Bunker Hill, Mississippi. He died on 6 November 1942 and was buried in Bunker Hill Cemetery. Mr. Wilkes was a merchant-farmer and preferred to spell his family name "Wilks". He married Lurene Lula Magee in Jefferson Davis County, Mississippi, on 27 November 1910. In addition to one stillborn child and another that died within 24 hours of birth they had the following children born to them:

- aa. Charles Raynor Wilkes, Jr. bb. Alline Wilkes
- cc. Lurene Wilkes

aa. CHARLES RAYNOR WILKES, JR., son of Charles Raynor and Lurene Lula (Magee) Wilkes, was born at Columbia, Mississippi, on 10 September 1921. He is in the insurance business and lives on Route 3, Columbia. He married Margie Russell at Gulfport, Mississippi, on 9 August 1945 and they have the following issue:

Charles Raynor Wilkes, III

Charles Raynor Wilkes, Jr., married, second, Hilda Trace Pitts at Columbia, Mississippi, in August 1950. They have no issue.

bb. ALLINE WILKES, daughter of Charles Raynor and Lurene Lula (Magee) Wilkes, was born at Columbia, Mississippi, on 18 April 1923. She married Hosea Jackson Weeks at Jackson, Mississippi, on 5 June 1945. They live at 899 Bennett Street, Columbia, Mississippi. They have the following issue:

Jacqueline Andrea Weeks, born 25 Feb. 1947

Pascagoula Public Library
Genealogy & Local History Dept.
Wilkes Family

182 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

cc. LURENE WILKES, daughter of Charles Raynor and Lurene Lula (Magee) Wilkes, was born on 16 May 1926 at Columbia, Mississippi. She married Sedgie McCain at Jackson, Mississippi, on 20 January 1947 and they had the following issue:

Jean Celeste McCain, born 19 Nov. 1947

Lurene Wilkes married, second, Chandler Duncan. They live near Tylertown, Mississippi, where Mr. Duncan is a dairy farmer.

b. BELLE OPHELIA WILKES, daughter of Stephen Hitchcock and Henrietta (Hammonds) Wilkes, was born near Columbia, Mississippi. She died of a heart condition on 29 December 1960. She married Ervin Eugene Sylvest and they resided at Hattiesburg, Mississippi, where Mr. Sylvest is a farmer and bookkeeper. The following children were born of this union.

aa. Virginia Lee Sylvest, born 11 Dec. 1909

bb. Thelma Thorne Sylvest, born 26 June 1911

cc. Ella Ruth Sylvest, born 11 Dec. 1914

dd. Eugenia Belle Sylvest, born 26 Aug. 1926

aa. VIRGINIA LEE SYLVEST, daughter of Ervin Eugene and Bell Ophelia (Wilkes) Sylvest was born at Sanford, Mississippi, on 11 December 1909. She married Thomas Vaught Collins at Columbia, Mississippi, on 16 November 1929. Mr. Collins is in the automobile business. They have the following issue:

aaa. Thomas Vaught Collins, Jr.

Virginia Lee Sylvest married, second, Jesse Rufus Carter at Hattiesburg, Mississippi, on 3 July 1960. They have no children. Mr. Carter is in construction work with the Daniels Construction Company of Greenville, South Carolina. Mrs. Carter is secretary to the Forest County, Mississippi, Home and Demonstration Agency. She has been with this agency continuously since 1 July 1946.

aaa. THOMAS VAUGHT COLLINS, JR. was born on 2 May 1932 near Bunker Hill, Marion County, Mississippi. Mr. Collins has a B. S. degree from Mississippi Southern College and taught school in Port Sulphur, Louisiana. He was in the Army from May 1953 to April 1956 and saw service at Fort Jackson, South Carolina, Columbus, Georgia, and two years in Germany.

dd. EUGENIA BELLE SYLVEST, daughter of Ervin Eugene and Bell Ophelia (Wilkes) Sylvest, was born near Bunker Hill, Marion County, Mississippi, on 26 August 1926. She married George Washington Carter at Port Sulphur, Louisiana, on 7 September 1950. They reside in Port Sulphur, where Mr. Carter is a foreman of the Freeport Sulphur Company and Mrs. Carter teaches the second grade in public school. They have no children.

ABNER WILKES

183

c. CARRIE LENA WILKES, daughter of Stephen Hitchcock and Henrietta (Hammonds) Wilkes, was born near Bunker Hill, Marion County, Mississippi, on 15 September 1897. She married Allen McNeese on 15 June 1915 and they lived in San Antonio, Texas, where Mr. McNeese was serving in the U. S. Army. They were divorced, but had the following issue:

aa. Frederick Allen McNeese

Carrie Lena Wilkes married, second, Dr. Daniel Nash Cushing, a dentist. They reside at 111 East Lullwood Street, San Antonio, Texas and have no children. Dr. Cushing is the president of Texas Osage Company, formed about 20 years ago to engage in leasing, drilling and production of oil and gas. The company has holdings in 114 of the 214 counties of Texas. Dr. Cushing is active in Masonic work; he is Past Grand Master of Texas, Past Commander of Texas, and Grand High Priest of Texas. He is the president of the board of directors of the Aged Masons of Texas, which office he has held for 28 years. Dr. Cushing is the Past Department Commander of the South Central States of the Grand Encampment of the Knight Templars of America.

aa. FREDERICK ALLEN McNEESE, son of Allen and Carrie Lena (Wilkes) McNeese, was born on 28 October 1918. He resides at New Braunfels, Texas, where he is an agency supervisor of Insurance Bureau, Continental Insurance Company. He married Virginia Irvin in June 1940 and they have had the following issue:

aaa. Robert Allen McNeese, born 2 June 1941

bbb. William Curtis McNeese, born 30 December 1942

aaa. ROBERT ALLEN McNEESE was born on 2 June 1941. He is serving with the United States Army at San Antonio, Texas. He married Karen King at San Antonio on 28 November 1958 and they have the following issue:

Carolyn McNeese, born 8 Aug. 1959

d. ESTELLE WILKES, daughter of Stephen Hitchcock and Henrietta (Hammonds) Wilkes, was born near Columbia, Mississippi, on 17 February 1893. She married Albert Littleton Williamson at Columbia on 25 December 1910. They live near Bunker Hill, Marion County, Mississippi, where Mr. Williamson engaged in farming prior to his death. The following children were born of this union:

Stephen Thomas Williamson

Albert Littleton Williamson, Jr.

Theodore Woodrow Williamson

Kathleen Williamson

Geraldine Williamson

Reta Jean Williamson

Carolyn Williamson

Pascagoula Public Library
Genealogy & Local History Dept.
Wilkes Family

184 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

e. GOLDIE WILKES, daughter of Stephen Hitchcock and Henrietta (Hammonds) Wilkes, was born near Bunker Hill, Marion County, Mississippi, on 19 April 1900. She married Jerome Padgett at Columbia, Mississippi, on 6 September 1922. He was a machinist and died 10 July 1941. She is a registered nurse and lives at 311 Mason Street, Columbia, Mississippi. The following children were born of this union:

- aa. Earl Jerome Padgett bb. Ted Jerome Padgett
- cc. Rhetta Ann Padgett

aa. EARL JEROME PADGETT, son of Jerome and Goldie (Wilkes) Padgett, was born near Columbia, Mississippi, on 7 June 1923. He was a veteran of World War II, with service in the Ordnance Corps of the U. S. Army from 5 May 1943 to 28 February 1946. He was in the Persian Gulf Command. He was a welder by trade and was killed in an automobile accident on 23 August 1952.

bb. TED JEROME PADGETT, son of Jerome and Goldie (Wilkes) Padgett, was born at Columbia, Mississippi, on 7 June 1923, a twin of Earl Jerome Padgett. He lives at 1101 Gill Street, Columbia, where he is an employee of the U. S. Postal Service. He is a veteran of World War II and served in the Ordnance Corps of the United States Army from 6 January 1943 to 13 November 1945. He was stationed in Hawaii for 18 months; participated in the Battle of Iwo Jima and was stationed in Saipan for some time. He was honorably discharged in the rating of technician, fifth grade. He married Elizabeth Clifton Conner at Columbia, Mississippi, on 26 December 1952 and they have the following child:

Elizabeth Conner Padgett, born 27 Nov. 1953

cc. RHETTA ANN PADGETT, daughter of Jerome and Goldie (Wilkes) Padgett, was born about three miles south of Bunker Hill, Marion County, Mississippi, on 14 November 1931. She attended Columbia, Mississippi schools and graduated from high school in 1953. She attended Mississippi State College for Women for two years and then transferred to the University of Alabama, where she obtained her degree. She is employed by the Ford Motor Company, New York City, and resides at 113 East 36th Street in that city.

f. AUSTIN LESLIE WILKES, son of Stephen Hitchcock and Henrietta (Hammonds) Wilkes, was born near Bunker Hill, Marion County, Mississippi, on 20 May 1903. He lives on Route 3, Columbia, Mississippi, where he is employed at the New Orleans Furniture Company's Columbia factory. Austin Leslie Wilkes and Alma Ramshur were married at Columbia, Mississippi, on 8 April 1923

ABNER WILKES

185

and had the following children born to them:

- aa. Minnie Lee Wilkes bb. Ted Sedgie Wilkes
- cc. Tamer Corine Wilkes dd. Stephen Henry Wilkes
- ee. Austin Leslie Wilkes, Jr. ff. Mary Helen Wilkes

Mr. Wilkes's wife died on 20 May 1936. He married, second, Zema Eulyn Hawthorne at Columbia, Mississippi, on 20 December 1936 and they had the following issue:

gg. Ophelia Ann Wilkes

aa. MINNIE LEE WILKES, daughter of Austin Leslie and Alma (Ramshur) Wilkes, was born near Columbia, Mississippi, on 21 September 1924. She graduated in nursing at the Southern Baptist Hospital, New Orleans, Louisiana, and in 1949 received a B. S. degree from Mississippi Southern College. She married Wallace Morris Conerly at the home of her parents on 7 April 1946. They reside on Route 3, Columbia, Mississippi, where Mr. Conerly is engaged in construction work. Mr. Conerly is a veteran of World War II. He enlisted 6 April 1943 and was discharged 19 February 1946. He was with the Thirty-Second Infantry Division of the U. S. Army in the Pacific Area. After his discharge he continued to serve in the U. S. Army Reserve Corps and was promoted to master sergeant. He has the following medals: Pacific Theater of Operations, American Theater of Operations, Good Conduct, and World War II Victory. The following children have been born to this family:

Charles Wallace Conerly, born 16 Oct. 1947

Nancy Lee Conerly, born 30 April 1949

bb. TED SEDGIE WILKES, son of Austin Leslie and Alma (Ramshur) Wilkes, was born near Bunker Hill, Mississippi, on 19 March 1926. He lives in Columbia, Mississippi, where he is in construction work. He is a veteran of World War II, having entered the U. S. Army on 28 June 1944 and was overseas from 25 February 1945 to 26 September 1945. He was released from active service on 12 June 1946.

Ted Sedgie Wilkes and Florence Howell were married at Bunker Hill on 19 December 1944 and they have the following children:

Ted Sedgie Wilkes, Jr., born 21 June 1946

Tony Murry Wilkes, born 19 Feb. 1948

cc. TAMER CORINE WILKES, daughter of Austin Leslie and Alma (Ramshur) Wilkes, was born near Bunker Hill, Marion County, Mississippi, on 7 May 1928. She married Willie Ray Selman at Columbia, Mississippi, on 27 December 1946. They live at 811 Section Avenue, Columbia, where Mr. Selman is manager of the Dutch

Pascagoula Public Library
Genealogy & Local History Dept.
Wilkes Family

186 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

Girl Laundry and Mrs. Selman is an employee of the local telephone company. Mr. Selman is a veteran of World War II. They have the following issue:

Billy Selman, born 25 Jan. 1948

dd. STEPHEN HENRY WILKES, son of Austin Leslie and Alma (Ramshur) Wilkes, was born near Bunker Hill, Marion County, Mississippi, on 22 December 1930. He resides at Morgan City, Louisiana, where he is a radio operator and warehouseman. He married Clara Carolyn Prime in the Bunker Hill community on 7 August 1948 and they have the following children:

Stephen Randy Wilkes, born 12 Sept. 1949

Janice Clara Wilkes, born 30 Oct. 1953

ee. AUSTIN LESLIE WILKES, JR., son of Austin Leslie and Alma (Ramshur) Wilkes, was born near Bunker Hill, Marion County, Mississippi, on 4 July 1933. He lives at Goss, Mississippi, where he is an oil company employee. He entered the U. S. Army in May 1951 and was first stationed at Fort Stewart, Georgia, but a few months later was sent to the Army Chemical Center, Baltimore, Maryland, where he was discharged in September 1952. After discharge from the army, he entered the National Guard. His National Guard Company was called into active service and at that time he was a corporal. Austin Leslie Wilkes, Jr. and Marian Nona Buckley were married at Goss, Mississippi, on 22 April 1952 and they have the following issue:

Austin Danny Wilkes, born 30 June 1953

Amelia Diane Wilkes, born 23 Sept. 1955

ff. MARY HELEN WILKES, daughter of Austin Leslie and Alma (Ramshur) Wilkes, was born in the Bunker Hill community of Marion County, Mississippi, on 28 August 1935. After graduation from Bunker Hill High School, where she was an honor student, she attended Pearl River Junior College, Poplarville, Mississippi, specializing in dietetics. She finished at Pearl River Junior College in 1956 and then took a nine-months course in dietetics at Mississippi Southern College, following which she served as a dietician at the Southern Baptist Hospital, New Orleans, Louisiana. She is now the head dietician at Marion County General Hospital, Columbia, Mississippi.

gg. OPHELIA ANN WILKES, daughter of Austin Leslie and Zema Eulyn (Hawthorne) Wilkes, was born in the Bunker Hill community of Marion County, Mississippi, on 28 March 1938. She married Edward Jackson Dease, Jr. at Bunker Hill on 29 June 1956. They live at Oxford, Mississippi, where Mr. Dease is attending the

ABNER WILKES

187

University of Mississippi and Mrs. Dease is a beauty operator.

3. THOMAS PINCKNEY WILKES

THOMAS PINCKNEY WILKES, son of Stephen Hitchcock Pinckney and Mary Humphrey (Barnes) Wilkes, was born in a small cottage on the Stephen Hitchcock Wilkes place in what was then Covington County, Mississippi, on 7 November 1863. He died on 11 July 1936 and was buried at the Bunker Hill Cemetery in Marion County, Mississippi. He married Lucy Burt at Columbia, Mississippi, on 25 December 1896 and they lived at Columbia, where Mr. Wilkes was in the mercantile business. The following children were born to this couple:

- a. Harry Beck Wilkes b. Thomas Pinckney Wilkes, Jr.
- c. Howard Glynn Wilkes d. Julia Wilkes

a. HARRY BECK WILKES, son of Thomas Pinckney and Lucy (Burt) Wilkes, was born at Columbia, Mississippi, on 4 May 1898. Before his death on 11 March 1957, he lived at Columbia, where he was a salesman. Mr. Wilkes never married.

b. THOMAS PINCKNEY WILKES, JR., son of Thomas Pinckney and Lucy (Burt) Wilkes, was born at Columbia, Mississippi, on 19 October 1899. He is unmarried and resides in New Orleans, Louisiana, where he is a carpenter.

c. HOWARD GLYNN WILKES, son of Thomas Pinckney and Lucy (Burt) Wilkes, was born at Columbia, Mississippi, on 16 October 1901. He lives near Varnado, Louisiana, where he is farming. Mr. Wilkes married Edna Knight at Varnado 24 December 1930. They have no children.

d. JULIA WILKES, daughter of Thomas Pinckney and Lucy (Burt) Wilkes, was born at Columbia, Mississippi, on 10 March 1904. She married Robert Fornea at Bogalusa, Louisiana, on 6 June 1921. They reside at Varnado, Louisiana, where Mr. Fornea is in the lumber business. The following children have been born of this marriage:

Julius Robert Fornea, born 26 March 1922

Thomas Earl Fornea, born 12 April 1924

Ruth Marlene Fornea, born 12 Aug. 1926

4. HENRY ALBERT WILKES

HENRY ALBERT WILKES, son of Stephen Hitchcock Pinckney and Mary Humphrey (Barnes) Wilkes, was born on the old Stephen Hitchcock Wilkes place in what was then Covington

Pascagoula Public Library
Genealogy & Local History Dept.
Wilkes Family

188 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

County, Mississippi, on 7 February 1865. He died on 11 July 1922 and was buried in the old Wilkes family graveyard. He lived at Columbia, Mississippi, where he was a traveling salesman. He never married.

5. BENJAMIN BRYANT WILKES

BENJAMIN BRYANT WILKES, son of Stephen Hitchcock Pinckney and Mary Humphrey (Barnes) Wilkes, was born on Greens Creek, Lawrence County, Mississippi on 11 September 1867. He died at Columbia, Mississippi on 5 January 1957 and was buried at Bunker Hill Cemetery in Marion County, Mississippi. He preferred to spell the family name "Wilks". He was affectionately known to a host of relatives and friends as "Uncle Ben".

He engaged in farming, carpentry, and plumbing before retirement. Although retired many years before his death, he continued to maintain a keen interest in life and was known far and wide for his good humor and ready wit.

He lived on the bank of Pearl River near Columbia, Mississippi, where he enjoyed good fishing and other outdoor activities. He was noted for his cane fishing poles, a hobby of his after retirement from active work. He married Martha Carolyn Polk (6-2-1869 — 3-4-1934), daughter of Daniel and Myra (Robertson) Polk on 6 April 1888 and they had the following issue:

- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| a. Burt Buckley Wilkes | b. Anne Gay Wilkes |
| c. Sedgie Fred Wilkes | d. Mary Elizabeth Wilkes |
| e. Pattie Brown Wilkes | f. Agnes Ophelia Wilkes |
| g. Benjamin Arthur Wilkes | h. Samuel Terrell Wilkes |

a. BURT BUCKLEY WILKES, son of Benjamin Bryant and Martha Carolyn (Polk) Wilkes, was born near what is now Bunker Hill, Marion County, Mississippi, on 8 September 1893. He is unmarried and lives in Columbia, Mississippi, where he is a retired licensed marine engineer with several years experience in ships, dredges, and other marine equipment, both government and private. His license covers ocean steamships. Mr. Wilkes is a veteran of World War II.

b. ANNE GAY WILKES, daughter of Benjamin Bryant and Martha Carolyn (Polk) Wilkes, was born in the Bunker Hill community of Marion County, Mississippi, on 27 March 1895. She married William Richard Moss at Columbia, Mississippi, on 7 September 1913. They live at Foxworth, Mississippi, where Mr. Moss is an electrician. The following children have been born to them:

ABNER WILKES

189

- aa. Bennie B. Moss, b. 11 Nov. 1915; d. 6 May 1916
bb. William Julius Moss, born 10 Feb. 1917

c. SEDGIE FRED WILKES, son of Benjamin Bryant and Martha Carolyn (Polk) Wilkes, was born in Marion County, Mississippi, on 4 May 1897. He is unmarried and resides at Columbia, Mississippi, where he is a painter. He is a veteran of World War II with service overseas.

d. MARY ELIZABETH WILKES, daughter of Benjamin Bryant and Martha Carolyn (Polk) Wilkes, was born at Columbia, Mississippi, on 23 December 1900. She married John Edgar Moore at Columbia, on 23 April 1920. Since their marriage they have lived at Bogalusa, Louisiana, and Crosby, Picayune, and Columbia, Mississippi, where Mr. Moore engaged in sawmill work. The following children have been born to this family:

- Mary John Moore, born 23 June 1922
Martha Nell Moore, born 18 Nov. 1924
Annie Jean Moore, born 24 Feb. 1929
Patsy Ruth Moore, born 9 Oct. 1936

e. PATSY BROWN WILKES, daughter of Benjamin Bryant and Martha Carolyn (Polk) Wilkes, was born at Columbia, Mississippi, on 25 July 1902. She married Murry M. Graves at Columbia, on 8 March 1929. They reside at Foxworth, Mississippi, where Mr. Graves is the railroad station agent. The following children have been born of this marriage:

- Ellen Marie Graves, born 25 Aug. 1930
Myra Helen Graves, born 3 May 1936

f. AGNES OPHELIA WILKES, daughter of Benjamin Bryant and Martha Carolyn (Polk) Wilkes, was born at Columbia, Mississippi, on 2 January 1905. She married William Laird at Columbia on 4 October 1925. They live at 3740 U, Houston, Texas, where Mr. Laird is a machinist. They have the following son:

- Billy Ray Laird, born 9 Jan. 1927

g. BENJAMIN ARTHUR WILKES, son of Benjamin Bryant and Martha Carolyn (Polk) Wilkes, was born at Columbia, Mississippi, on 10 August 1908. He is a retired World War II veteran and lives at Columbia. He married Jewel Odom at Columbia on 15 August 1931 and they have the following issue:

- aa. Bennie Burt Wilkes, born 29 Aug. 1932
bb. John L. Wilkes, born 20 May 1936
cc. Sedgie Ray Wilkes, born 29 July 1941

aa. BENNIE BURT WILKES, son of Benjamin Arthur and Jewel (Odom) Wilkes, was born at Columbia, Mississippi, on 29

Pascagoula Public Library
Genealogy & Local History Dept.
Wilkes Family

190 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

August 1932. He resides at 203 East Eighth Street, Hattiesburg, Mississippi, where he is a member of the City Police force. He enlisted in the U. S. Army on 26 September 1949 at the age of 17 years and had basic training at Fort Jackson, South Carolina. He was later assigned to the Second Armored Division at Fort Hood, Texas. This was one of the first tank outfits to go to Korea. He served with the 24th Infantry Division and was credited with 11 months combat service. He was engaged in five campaigns in Korea. He was in active service for six years and went overseas three times. After leaving the army, he enrolled in a business college but gave this up to join the Hattiesburg police force on 14 September 1956. Bennie Burt Wilkes and Grace McNeil were married at Bennettsville, North Carolina, on 26 April 1953 and they have the following issue:

Bennie Burt Wilkes, Jr., born 13 July 1954
Toney Ray Wilkes, born 2 March 1956
Kenneth Allen Wilkes, born 23 Feb. 1957

bb. JOHN LAVERN WILKES, son of Benjamin Arthur and Jewel (Odom) Wilkes, was born at Columbia, Mississippi, on 20 May 1934. He lives at 108 Eva Street, Hattiesburg, Mississippi, where he is a salesman for Smith Bakery. He served four years in the United States Air Force from July 1952 to July 1956 and was discharged as airman first class. He married Doris Lavell Watts at Hattiesburg on 3 July 1955 and they have the following issue:

Timmy Clark Wilkes, born 4 June 1956
Clifton Mark Wilkes, born 23 Aug. 1959

h. SAMUEL TERRELL WILKES, son of Benjamin Bryant and Martha Carolyn (Polk) Wilkes, was born at Columbia, Mississippi, on 16 January 1910. He is a veteran of World War II and lives at Foxworth, Mississippi. He married Ada Morgan at Columbia on 20 March 1930. They have no children.

6. SAMUEL TERRELL WILKES

SAMUEL TERRELL WILKES, son of Stephen Hitchcock Pinckney and Mary Humphrey (Barnes) Wilkes, was born in Lawrence County, Mississippi, about six miles south of the present Prentiss, on 15 September 1869. He died on 7 July 1945. For several years before his death Mr. Wilkes lived at Columbia, Mississippi, where he retired from contracting business. He married Sarah Alice Evans on 1 October 1893 and they had the following children born to them:

a. Minnie Louvina Wilkes b. Robert Earl Wilkes

ABNER WILKES

191

- c. Pinckney Stephen Wilkes
- d. Mike Wilkes, born 10 Oct. 1899; died 4 Aug. 1900
- e. Jabus B. Wilkes, born 15 May 1901; died 24 Sept. 1905
- f. Lovey Mamie Wilkes g. Lewis Terrell Wilkes
- h. Helen Wilkes, born 4 March 1917; died in infancy

a. MINNIE LOUVINA WILKES, daughter of Samuel Terrell and Sarah Alice (Evans) Wilkes, was born at Columbia, Mississippi, on 20 July 1894. She married Roger Graham at Columbia on 21 September 1913. They resided at 711 Royal Street, Columbia, where Mr. Graham died on 13 December 1951. Minnie Louvina married, second, George Brown Baker, a retired oil field worker. They reside at the above address. No children were born of either marriage.

b. ROBERT EARL WILKES, son of Samuel Terrell and Sarah Alice (Evans) Wilkes, was born at Columbia, Mississippi, on 20 April 1896 and died on 23 January 1944. At the time of his death, Mr. Wilkes was living in Columbia and was engaged in construction work. He married Eula Dawsey at Hub, Mississippi, on 20 September 1919 and they had the following children:

- aa. Edna Wilkes, died at birth on 25 Dec. 1920
- bb. Samuel Wilkes, died at birth on 27 Oct. 1921
- cc. Robert E. Wilkes dd. Charles Wilkes
- ee. Jackson Wilkes ff. Audrey Wilkes

cc. ROBERT E. WILKES, son of Robert Earl and Eula (Dawsey) Wilkes, was born at Columbia, Mississippi on 30 October 1922. He is a veteran of World War II, having served with the United States Army Seventh Armored Division throughout the war. He has continued with his military career and is a master sergeant in the 58th Fighter Bomber Wing, a Korea-based unit of the Fifth Air Force. His family lives at 414 Dale Street, Columbia, Mississippi. He married Duree Hartzog, from whom he was separated without issue. He married, second, Myrtle Jones on 20 January 1947 and they had the following issue:

Stephen Wilkes

Robert E. Wilkes married, third, Mamie Cooper. The names of their children have not been ascertained.

dd. CHARLES WILKES, son of Robert Earl and Eula (Dawsey) Wilkes, was born at Columbia, Mississippi, on 30 May 1928. He is a veteran of World War II. He married Joyce Thornhill at Columbia, Mississippi, on 20 January 1949 and they have the following issue:

Pascagoula Public Library
Genealogy & Local History Dept.
Wilkes Family

192 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

Cathy Darlene Wilkes, born 21 Oct. 1949

Charlotte Ann Wilkes, born 20 Jan. 1951

ee. JACKSON WILKES, son of Robert Earl and Eula (Dawsey) Wilkes, was born at Columbia, Mississippi, on 17 February 1936. He married Eva Rae Lankford at Valdosta, Georgia and they have the following children:

Jack Terrell Wilkes, born 5 Jan. 1958

Melody Lynn Wilkes, born 5 June 1959

ff. AUDREY WILKES, daughter of Robert Earl and Eula (Dawsey) Wilkes, was born at Columbia, Mississippi, on 22 May 1938. She married Charles Burkett at Columbia on 1 January 1955 and they have the following issue:

Beverly Ann Burkett, born 2 Aug. 1956

c. PINCKNEY STEPHEN WILKES, son of Samuel Terrell and Sarah Alice (Evans) Wilkes, was born at Columbia, Mississippi, on 11 January 1898. He lives at 1209 Church Street, Columbia, where he engages in paper hanging and house painting. He is a veteran of World War I with service in the United States Navy. He was discharged at New Orleans, Louisiana, on 4 March 1919 as seaman first class.

Pinckney Stephen Wilkes and Verna Elizabeth Ross were married at D'Lo, Mississippi, on 14 May 1923 and they have the following children:

aa. William Bryan Wilkes, born 2 May 1924

bb. Charles Kenneth Wilkes, born 24 Sept. 1926

cc. Mary Elizabeth Wilkes, born 14 Feb. 1928

dd. Joseph Roger Wilkes, b. 14 Feb. 1928; d. 3 July 1928

ee. James Benjamin Wilkes, b. 14 Feb. 1928; d. 1 May 1928

ff. Betty Ann Wilkes, born 4 Aug. 1931

gg. Samuel Edward Wilkes, born 4 Nov. 1936

aa. WILLIAM BRYAN WILKES, son of Pinckney Stephen and Verna Elizabeth (Ross) Wilkes, was born at Columbia, Mississippi, where he resides at 1211 Church Street and is engaged in telephone work. He is a veteran of World War II. He enlisted in the United States Marine Corps at Jackson, Mississippi, on 16 January 1943 and served with the First Marine Division in the New Guinea, Okinawa, and Maiken Island campaigns. He participated in action against the enemy at Cape Gloucester, New Britain 26 December 1943 to 10 February 1944; Talasea, New Britain from 6 March to 15 May 1944; Palau Islands from 15 September to 10 October 1944; Okinawa from 1 April to 21 June 1945; Occupation of Japan from 5 October to 3 December 1945. He was honorably discharged as a

ABNER WILKES

193

corporal at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina in January 1946. William Wilkes and Elsie Dee Bounds were married at Columbia, Mississippi, on 11 January 1948 and they have the following issue:

Marianne Wilkes, born 23 Feb. 1953

Nancy Carolyn Wilkes, born 10 April 1957

bb. CHARLES KENNETH WILKES, son of Pinckney Stephen and Verna Elizabeth (Ross) Wilkes, was born at Columbia, Mississippi and resides at Citronelle, Alabama, where he is a geologist with Baroid Engineering Company. He is a veteran of World War II with service in the United States Navy from 8 October 1944 to 17 January 1946. He saw combat service in the Pacific Area and was in the Okinawa campaign. Kenneth Wilkes and Rita Renfro were married at Sonoro, Texas, on 29 August 1953 and they have the following children:

Karen Bailey Wilkes, born 28 Sept. 1954

Thomas Edward Wilkes, born 18 Dec. 1955

Laura Elizabeth Wilkes, born 26 Nov. 1956

Susan Elaine Wilkes, born 19 March 1959

Robin Frances Wilkes, born 7 June 1960

cc. MARY ELIZABETH WILKES, daughter of Pinckney Stephen and Verna Elizabeth (Ross) Wilkes, was born at Columbia, Mississippi. She married Clovis Melvin Little at Jackson, Mississippi on 26 June 1955. They live at 4604 Elgin Ave., Jackson. They have the following children:

Stephen George Little, born 3 July 1957

Sally Ann Little, born 4 Dec. 1958

ff. BETTY ANN WILKES, daughter of Pinckney Stephen and Verna Elizabeth (Ross) Wilkes, was born at Columbia, Mississippi 4 August 1931. She married William Elwood Spence at Foxworth, Mississippi on 8 April 1958. They live at 721 Dale St., Columbia, where Mr. Spence is an accountant. They have had the following child born to them:

James Kyle Spence, born 13 Oct. 1962

gg. SAMUEL EDWARD WILKES, son of Pinckney Stephen and Verna Elizabeth (Ross) Wilkes, was born at Columbia, Mississippi. He lives at 809 Section Avenue, Columbia and is studying pharmacy at the University of Mississippi. He served in the U. S. Army from 25 January 1955 to 24 January 1958 and was discharged as a specialist, second class. He married Minnie Ruth Morris at Columbia, Mississippi on 11 April 1958 and they have:

Lisa Lee Wilkes, born 23 April 1960

f. LOVEY MAMIE WILKES, daughter of Samuel Terrell and

Pascagoula Public Library
Genealogy & Local History Dept.
Wilkes Family

194 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

Sarah Alice (Evans) Wilkes, was born at Columbia, Mississippi, on 2 April 1906. She is a registered nurse and lives at 711 Royal Street, Columbia, Mississippi, where she is a nurse at the Marion County General Hospital. She married St. Claire Smith at Bassfield, Mississippi, on 20 January 1941 and was divorced without issue.

g. LEWIS TERRELL WILKES, son of Samuel Terrell and Sarah Alice (Evans) Wilkes, was born at Columbia, Mississippi, on 30 March 1915. He lives at 1103 Gill Street, Columbia, where he is a painter and paper hanger. He is a veteran of World War II, with service in the United States Navy from 9 March 1944 to 4 December 1945, and overseas service in England and France. He was discharged in the rating of seaman, first class.

Lewis Terrell Wilkes and Emma Turnage were married at Columbia, Mississippi, on 11 August 1934 and have the following children:

- aa. Sarah Irene Wilkes, born 20 Dec. 1937
- bb. Joseph Terrell Wilkes, born 27 Nov. 1939
- cc. William Evans Wilkes, born 26 June 1946

aa. SARAH IRENE WILKES, daughter of Lewis Terrell and Emma (Turnage) Wilkes, was born at Columbia, Mississippi. She married Barron Daniel Gray at Columbia, Mississippi, on 7 October 1956. They reside at Starkville, Mississippi, where Mr. Gray is studying electrical engineering at Mississippi State University. They have the following child:

Lillian Bernice Gray, born 1 June 1959

bb. JOSEPH TERRELL WILKES, son of Lewis Terrell and Emma (Turnage) Wilkes, was born at Columbia, Mississippi. He resides at 3707 Alabama Avenue, Washington, D. C., where he is with the Federal Bureau of Investigation. He married Jewel Fern Fox in Washington, D. C. on 14 May 1960.

7. SARAH LORENA WILKES

SARAH LORENA WILKES, daughter of Stephen Hitchcock Pinckney and Mary Humphrey (Barnes) Wilkes, was born near what is now Prentiss, Mississippi, on 21 February 1872 and died on 17 February 1919. Burial was at the cemetery of Silver Creek Baptist Church. She married Benjamin Mikell at Columbia, Mississippi on 8 January 1894. They lived near Prentiss, where Mr. Mikell engaged in farming. The following children were born of this union:

Herbert Mikell	Margaret Mikell
Hattie Mikell	Burlie Mikell
Ida Mikell	Vergie Mikell
Ted Mikell	Robert Mikell

ABNER WILKES

195

8. CLARICY JANE WILKES

CLARICY JANE WILKES, daughter of Stephen Hitchcock Pinckney and Mary Humphrey (Barnes) Wilkes, was born near Prentiss, Mississippi, on 26 December 1873 and died on 15 July 1904, burial was at Hathorn Cemetery near Bassfield, Mississippi. She married Frank Hathorn at Columbia, Mississippi, on 3 February 1891 and they lived near what is now Bassfield, where Mr. Hathorn engaged in farming. They had the following children born to them:

Alver Hathorn	Nannie Hathorn
Geneva Hathorn	Louie Hathorn
Eddie Ruth Hathorn	Ina Hathorn
Thomas Hathorn	

9. VIRGIL WILLIAM WILKES

VIRGIL WILLIAM WILKES, son of Stephen Hitchcock Pinckney and Mary Humphrey (Barnes) Wilkes, was born near Prentiss, Mississippi, on 3 July 1876 and died on 12 December 1944, burial was at Columbia, Mississippi, where he lived and engaged in carpentry and barbering. He married Ava Juanita White at Silver Creek, Mississippi, on 6 October 1906. She resides at 916 Church Street, Columbia. They had the following issue:

- a. Jessie Leigh Wilkes
- b. Mamie Louise Wilkes
- c. Nell Wilkes
- d. Frances Shelby Wilkes

a. JESSIE LEIGH WILKES, daughter of Virgil William and Ava Juanita (White) Wilkes, was born at Columbia, Mississippi, on 23 August 1907. She married Reverend D. W. Nix, a Baptist minister, at Columbia on 3 October 1924. They live at Monroe, Louisiana, where Rev. Nix is the pastor of a Baptist Church. Their two sons are in active military service; Bobby John is in the U. S. Air Force and is stationed at Biggs Air Force Base, El Paso, Texas; Virgil Webb is in the U. S. Army and is stationed at Princess Ann, Virginia. The following children have been born of this union:

- aa. Tina Evelyn Nix, born 31 Oct. 1929
- bb. Bobby John Nix, born 9 July 1935
- cc. Virgil Webb Nix, born 22 May 1937

aa. TINA EVELYN NIX, daughter of Reverend Daniel Webster and Jessie Leigh (Wilkes) Nix, was born at Columbia, Mississippi. She married Dewey Ellis Norsworthy of Bogalusa, Louisiana on 7 July 1948. They reside in Bogalusa, where Mr. Norsworthy is

Pascagoula Public Library
Genealogy & Local History Dept.
Wilkes Family

196 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

a city policeman, and is a first lieutenant in the Louisiana National Guard. They have the following issue:

Tina Evelyn Norsworthy, born 19 Dec. 1949

Diane Estelle Norsworthy, born 24 Nov. 1953

Dewey Ellis Norsworthy, Jr., born 22 June 1958

bb. MAMIE LOUISA WILKES, daughter of Virgil William and Ava Juanita (White) Wilkes, was born at Columbia, Mississippi, on 29 July 1909. She married Vance Herbert Strickland at Columbia on 11 September 1926. They live at 1120 Gill Street, Columbia, Mississippi, where Mr. Strickland was a highway patrolman for 20 years and became an electrical contractor after retirement. The following children have been born of this marriage:

aa. Claudia Vern Strickland

bb. Mary Nell Strickland

aa. CLAUDIA VERN STRICKLAND was born at Columbia, Mississippi on 11 August 1928. She married Technical Sergeant John C. Hodges, Jr. They live at Moranville Trailer Court, Biloxi, Mississippi.

bb. MARY NELL STRICKLAND was born at Columbia, Mississippi on 14 September 1931. She married Robert A. Davenport. They reside at 41 Rear College Street, Newman, Georgia, where Mr. Davenport is a brick mason and engages in construction work. One child has been born of this marriage:

Robert Herbert Davenport, born 18 Feb. 1960

c. NELL WILKES, daughter of Virgil William and Ava Juanita (White) Wilkes, was born at Columbia, Mississippi, on 27 February 1915. She married Achille Cheron at Columbia on 30 June 1946. They live at 4078 Gentilly Road, New Orleans, Louisiana, where Mr. Cheron is an employee of the New Orleans Housing Authority. Mr. Cheron is a veteran of World War II with two and a half years service in the United States Navy. No children have been born to this family.

d. FRANCES SHELBY WILKES, daughter of Virgil William and Ava Juanita (White) Wilkes, was born at Columbia, Mississippi on 8 July 1920. She married Norman Kaufman at Little Rock, Arkansas, on 18 September 1944. They live at 7946 Montgomery Avenue, Elkins Park, Pennsylvania, where Mr. Kaufman is a watchmaker. Mr. Kaufman is a veteran of World War II, having been a technical sergeant in the Ordnance Corps of the United States Army. The following children were born of the marriage:

Phyllis Jane Kaufman, born 15 April 1946

Anita Lynn Kaufman, born 26 Oct. 1948

ABNER WILKES

197

Janet Leigh Kaufman, born 15 Nov. 1951

Sandra Marlene Kaufman, born 19 June 1956

10. HATTIE WILKES

HATTIE WILKES, daughter of Stephen Hitchcock Pinckney and Mary Humphrey (Barnes) Wilkes, was born at the old Wilkes Home in what was then Covington County, Mississippi, on 9 January 1878 and died on 11 July 1935, burial was at Columbia, Mississippi. She married George Magee at Columbia on 4 November 1902. They lived at Columbia, where Mr. Magee engaged in barbering. They had no issue.

11. JABUS RAWLS WILKES

JABUS RAWLS WILKES, son of Stephen Hitchcock Pinckney and Mary Humphrey (Barnes) Wilkes, was born at the old Wilkes home, near what is now Bassfield, Mississippi, on 29 October 1880. He died unmarried on 22 September 1898 and was buried in the Stephen H. Wilkes family graveyard.

12. EMILY ROBERTA WILKES

EMILY ROBERTA WILKES, daughter of Stephen Hitchcock Pinckney and Mary Humphrey (Barnes) Wilkes, was born at the old Wilkes home near what is now Bassfield, Mississippi, on 6 December 1883. She married Enos Leigh at Columbia, Mississippi, on 26 November 1906. They live at 6720 Memphis Street, New Orleans, Louisiana, where Mr. Leigh is a retired Lumberman. The following children were born of this marriage:

a. Mary Lane Leigh, born 6 Dec. 1909

b. Anne Emily Leigh, born 2 June 1911

c. Mattie Roberta Leigh, born 5 June 1915

d. Robert Samuel Leigh, born 4 June 1918

e. Lovenia Sarah Leigh, born 10 Nov. 1920

f. Frances Marie Leigh, born 6 Sept. 1922

d. ROBERT SAMUEL LEIGH, son of Enos and Emily Roberta (Wilkes) Leigh, was born at New Hebron, Mississippi 4 June 1918. He resides at Pascagoula, Mississippi, where he is an employee in the office of the Supervisor of Shipbuilding at Ingalls Shipbuilding Company. He is a veteran of World War II and was a technical sergeant in the U. S. Fourth Army. He was stationed at Camp Beauregard, Louisiana and at Fort Sam Houston, Texas from 1944 to 1946. He received his bachelor of science degree from Mississippi Southern College, Hattiesburg, Mississippi in 1940. Robert Samuel Leigh and Marion Myrl Waltzer were married at New Orleans,

198 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

Louisiana, on 6 November 1948. She is a graduate nurse of Touro Infirmary, New Orleans, Louisiana and was a nurse in the U. S. Navy at Pensacola, Florida and San Leandro, California hospitals 1943 to 1945. Before marriage, both were civil service employees at the U. S. Veterans Administration Hospital, New Orleans, Louisiana. The following children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Leigh:

Robert Samuel Leigh, Jr., born 29 Nov. 1949

Melanie Caroline Leigh, born 17 July 1954

13. JESSIE CAROLINE WILKES

JESSIE CAROLINE WILKES, daughter of Stephen Hitchcock Pinckney and Mary Humphrey (Barnes) Wilkes, was born in Marion County, Mississippi, on 31 May 1886. She married Albert Moore, barber, at Columbia, Mississippi, on 6 August 1906 and they had the following children:

Alphonse Moore, born 24 July 1907

Happy Moore, born 26 Jan. 1910

Charlene Moore, born 12 June 1915

Jessie Caroline Wilkes married, second, at Yazoo City, Mississippi, William Schneider who is a retired engineer of the Great Northern Railway. They live at 1008 Leonard Street, Hot Springs, Arkansas and have no children.

J. JOSEPH ASA WILKES

JOSEPH ASA WILKES, son of Stephen Hitchcock and Mary (McNeese) Wilkes, was born in Marion County, Mississippi on 18 January 1840. He died on 17 September 1893 at Abbott, Texas, where he was retired and living with his son, Doctor Frank B. Wilkes.

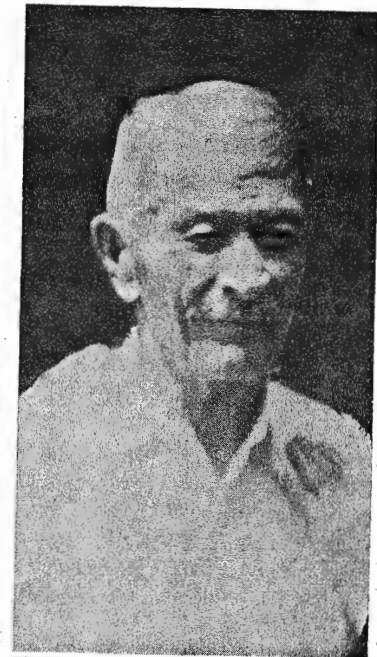
He was a Confederate veteran, having enlisted with his three brothers at Williamsburg, Mississippi on 22 February 1862. The four brothers were assigned to Company B of the 46th Mississippi Infantry, and were with that organization throughout the siege of Vicksburg and the fighting around Vicksburg that preceded the long siege. Mr. Wilkes was paroled after the surrender of the Confederate forces at Vicksburg but returned to further active service upon the exchange of his company. He was with his command in Tennessee, in and around Atlanta, Georgia, and in many other engagements with the enemy before he was paroled for the last time in May 1865.

Joseph Asa Wilkes and Minerva Gipson (12 Mar. 1844 - 18 June 1909), daughter of Arthur and Caroline Gipson of Palletville,



STEPHEN HITCHCOCK WILKES

(Page 181)



BENJAMIN BRYANT WILKES

(Page 188)

ABNER WILKES

199

Simpson County, Mississippi were married in 1859. After their marriage they lived in Lawrence County, Mississippi until after the War Between the States, when they moved to Cato, Rankin County, Mississippi. In 1870, they sold their property in Mississippi and joined a sixty-family migration train for the Trinity River valley of Texas. They settled near Lovelady in Houston County, but lived there only a short time. They found a great deal of sickness prevailed in their new settlement and on that account sold their land and livestock and returned to Mississippi, settling in Marion County, near where his parents had lived. In 1891, they again moved to Texas. This time to live with their son, Dr. Frank B. Wilkes, who had established a lucrative practice in general medicine and lived at Abbott.

The children born to Joseph Asa and Minerva Almira (Gipson) Wilkes, were the following:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| a. Frank B. Wilkes | d. Caroline Wilkes |
| b. Elizabeth Wilkes, d. in her youth | e. Fountain Wilkes |
| c. Mary Jane Wilkes, died in infancy | f. Emma Elizabeth Wilkes |



a. DR. FRANK B. WILKES
(B for an uncle, Dr. B. Gipson), son of Joseph Asa and Minerva (Gipson) Wilkes, was born in Lawrence County, Mississippi on 17 November 1860. He died of Bright's Disease and a stroke at his residence, 4002 Garrett St., Houston, Texas on 11 March 1922. Burial was in Glenwood Cemetery in Houston.

Dr. Wilkes obtained his degree in medicine from Memphis Medical College, Memphis, Tennessee in 1888 and immediately began the practice of general medicine at Abbott, Texas. Some years later, he moved to Houston, Texas, where he continued in the practice of his profession until his death. Dr. Wilkes was not

Pascagoula Public Library
Genealogy & Local History Dept.
Wilkes Family

200 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

only a prominent and well-loved general practitioner of the horse and buggy era, but he was an outstanding citizen of his city. He was keenly interested in Masonry, the Baptist Church, and the betterment of his community and mankind.

Dr. Wilkes and Mary E. Jameson, daughter of William Franklin and Melissa Ann (King) Jameson of Marshfield, Missouri, were married in Dallas, Texas on 29 June 1905. She died in Houston on 17 July 1959 and was buried alongside her deceased husband. Dr. and Mrs. Wilkes had no children of their own but for many years made a home for Dr. Wilkes' parents and others of the family.

d. CAROLINE (CALLIE) WILKES, daughter of Joseph Asa and Minerva Almira (Gipson) Wilkes, was born in Marion County, Mississippi, on 9 June 1874 and died of a heart condition on 23 April 1923, burial was in Hollywood Cemetery, Houston, Texas.

Caroline (Callie) Wilkes married Edgar Westmoreland (10-2-1872—7-20-1923) at Abbott, Texas. They lived near Abbott, where Mr. Westmoreland engaged in farming. They had the following issue:

- aa. Emma May Westmoreland
- bb. Lula Elizabeth Westmoreland
- cc. Alma Minerva Westmoreland
- dd. Gertrude Rovella Westmoreland
- ee. Mary Frances Westmoreland

aa. EMMA MAY WESTMORELAND, daughter of Edgar and Caroline (Wilkes) Westmoreland, was born at Abbott, Texas, on 25 November 1898. She married William Liny Morgan at Abbott on 1 August 1917. They reside at 7523 Longpoint, Houston, Texas where Mr. Morgan is a foreman for the Anderson Clayton Company. They have the following children:

- William Liny Morgan, Jr., born 25 July 1920
- Frank Donald Morgan, born 27 Nov. 1924
- Betty Lou Morgan, born 6 Aug. 1926

bb. LULA ELIZABETH WESTMORELAND, daughter of Edgar and Caroline (Wilkes) Westmoreland, was born at Abbott, Texas, on 31 January 1900. She died at Houston, Texas, on 3 July 1954, burial was at Forest Park Cemetery, Houston, Texas. She married Edgar Arthur Warnke at Houston, Texas. They resided at Houston, Texas, where Mr. Warnke was an employee of the Houston Lighting and Power Company. The following were born of this union:

- Callie Frances Warnke, born 13 Aug. 1924
- Edgar Arthur Warnke, Jr., born 16 Sept. 1938

ABNER WILKES

201

cc. ALMA MINERVA WESTMORELAND, daughter of Edgar and Caroline (Wilkes) Westmoreland, was born at Abbott, Texas, on 30 June 1902. She married Louis Jacob Warnke at Houston, Texas, on 15 September 1923. They live at 712 Graceland, Houston, where Mr. Warnke is employed by the Gulf Oil Corporation. They have the following issue:

Alma Jean Warnke, born 19 Oct. 1924

dd. GERTRUDE ROVELLA WESTMORELAND, daughter of Edgar and Caroline (Wilkes) Westmoreland, was born at Abbott, Texas, on 5 January 1906. She married Herbert Claud Frank Kelly at Houston, Texas, on 4 June 1922. They reside at 3502 Billingsley, Houston 22, Texas, where Mr. Kelly is in the insurance business. They are members of Christ Presbyterian Church. Mr. Kelly is a veteran of World War I. The following children were born of this union:

- aaa. Herbert Louis Kelly, born 6 April 1923
- bbb. Frances Maurine Kelly, born 18 June 1924
- ccc. June Carolyn Kelly, born 17 July 1928
- ddd. Rovella Adeline Kelly, born 14 Oct. 1935

aaa. HERBERT LOUIS KELLY was killed in action on 20 November 1944 while serving in Company B, 334th Infantry, 84th Division of the United States Army in Germany. He was buried in Maugratin Cemetery in Holland.

bbb. FRANCES MAURINE KELLY was born at Houston, Texas. She married John M. Williamson at Houston on 25 April 1942. They reside at 4602 De Milo, Houston, where Mr. Williamson is a steelworker. Mr. Williamson is a veteran of World War II. He enlisted at San Antonio, Texas on 23 November 1942 and saw active service as staff sergeant in the 103rd and 45th divisions of the 409 Infantry Regiment, U. S. Army. He has the following decorations: European Theater of Operations medal; Rhine Campaign medal; Mediterranean Campaign medal; Sergeant Williamson was discharged at San Antonio on 11 November 1945. The following daughter has been born to Sergeant and Mrs. Williamson:

Bonnie Sue Williamson, born 20 Sept. 1944

ccc. JUNE CAROLYN KELLY was born at Houston, Texas. She married Muriel Landers Warren in Houston on 30 June 1947. They reside at 317 Reid Street, Houston, where Mr. Warren has his own radio and television shop and is an amateur radio operator-K5HPO. Mr. Warren is a veteran of World War II. He enlisted on 13 April 1943 when not yet 19 years of age at Tyler, Texas with Air Wing Fleet 4 and served overseas at Attu Island. He was dis-

Pascagoula Public Library
Genealogy & Local History Dept.
Wilkes Family

202 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

charged at Camp Wallace, Houston, Texas on 19 December 1945 in the rating of aviation radioman third class (CA) SV-6. The following children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Warren:

John Robert Warren, born 12 March 1955
Raymond Douglas Warren, born 1 Jan. 1957
Louis Landers Warren, born 10 Aug. 1958

ddd. ROVELLA ADELINE KELLY was born in Houston, Texas. She married William H. Parsons at Houston on 10 February 1956. They reside at 619 East Janish Street, Houston, where Sergeant Parsons is a self-employed carpenter and television repair man. Sergeant Parsons is a veteran of World War II. He enlisted at Ellington Air Force Base on 2 October 1937 when not yet 18 years of age. He was sent to Langley Field, Virginia and then was with the occupation forces in Japan for one year, later spending 21 months in Korea. He has the Korean Medal and the United Nations medal for service in Korea. He returned to Ellington Air Force Base and was discharged in the rating of staff sergeant on 2 October 1953. Following his discharge he was in the active reserve until 2 October 1954.

ee. MARY FRANCES WESTMORELAND, daughter of Edgar and Caroline (Wilkes) Westmoreland, was born in Abbott, Texas, on 28 September 1911. She married Richard Henry Hutchings at Lake Charles, Louisiana, on 20 March 1933. They live at 312 South Twelfth Street, La Porte, Texas, where Mr. Hutchings is an employee of the Shell Oil Company with more than 28 years of service. The following children were born to them:

aaa. Harry Edgar Hutchings, b. 10 Sept. 1935; d. 10 Sept. 1952
bbb. Mary Ann Hutchings ccc. Carolyn Sue Hutchings

bbb. MARY ANN HUTCHINGS was born in Houston, Texas, on 9 September 1937. She married Paul Tauzin, Jr. of Lake Charles, Louisiana, at La Porte, Texas, in October 1959. They reside at 1000 Avenue H, Bay City, Texas, where Mr. Tauzin is with Dow-Well Company. They have no children.

ccc. CAROLYN SUE HUTCHINGS was born in Houston, Texas, on 7 January 1943. She married John Charles Wakefield at La Porte, Texas, in June, 1961. They reside at 1017½ College St., Killeen, Texas. Mr. Wakefield is in the U. S. Army at Fort Hood, Texas. They have the following issue:

Lesia Ann Wakefield, born 24 March 1962

e. FOUNTAIN WILKES, son of Joseph Asa and Minerva Almira (Gipson) Wilkes, was born in Marion County, Mississippi, on 22 February 1875. He was named for his mother's brother, Fountain

ABNER WILKES

203

Gipson. Fountain Wilkes died, unmarried, of pneumonia following an automobile accident, at Houston, Texas, on 29 September 1934. He was buried at Abbott, Texas, in the Wilkes plot there. For many years before his death, Fountain Wilkes lived with his brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Westmoreland, who owned and operated a large farm near Abbott. Fountain enjoyed riding the sulky plows and rakes but disliked walking and steering a plow behind a lonely mule.

f. EMMA ELIZABETH WILKES, daughter of Joseph Asa and Minerva Almira (Gipson) Wilkes, was born in Marion County, Mississippi, on 11 October 1879. She died of a stroke at Houston, Texas, on 27 January 1937. Burial was in Hollywood Cemetery in Houston. She married Alonzo Fennell at Abbott, Texas, on 12 October 1898. They lived in Houston, Texas, where Mr. Fennell engaged in the practice of law until his death on 15 October 1912. He was buried at Hillsboro, Texas. The following children were born to them:

aa. George Thomas Fennell bb. Frank B. Fennell

aa. GEORGE THOMAS FENNELL, son of Alonzo and Emma Elizabeth (Wilkes) Fennell, was born at Abbott, Texas, on 11 February 1904. He resides at 3508 Milan Street, Houston, Texas, where he is employed as a maintenance man. He married Ethel Hall at Houston on 12 August 1934 and they have the following children:

aaa. George Thomas Fennell, Jr. bbb. Emma Leah Fennell

aaa. GEORGE THOMAS FENNELL, JR. was born in Houston, Texas, on 18 August 1935. He resides at 6333 Rolla Street, Houston, where he is an electronics expeditor. He is a veteran of the Korean War with service as a paratrooper of the First Marine Division. He married Delores Anita Plumlee at Houston, Texas, on 24 February 1956. They have the following three children, the first two of whom are adopted:

Linda Kay Fennell, born 27 Dec. 1953
Deborah Ann Fennell, born 16 March 1955
Cynthia Denise Fennell, born 1 Jan. 1960

bbb. EMMA LEAH FENNELL was born at Houston, Texas, on 9 February 1937. She married Billy Schuler, a refinery worker, on 24 August 1957. They reside at 1019 Meads Street, San Antonio, Texas. Mr. Schuler served in the United States Army from 1953 to 1955. They have the following children:

Gaylyn Schuler, born 22 Oct. 1958
Sharon Ann Schuler, born 10 Aug. 1961
bb. FRANK B. FENNELL, son of Alonzo and Emma Eliza-

204 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

beth (Wilkes) Fennell, was born in Houston, Texas, on 23 December 1908. He lives at 1005 Graceland Street, Houston, Texas, where he is a salesman. He married Lucille Christian in Houston on 20 June 1938. They have the following children:

Patricia Ann Fennell, born 16 Nov. 1940
Frank Bass Fennell, born 13 July 1949

11. HENRY GEORGE WILKES

HENRY GEORGE WILKES, son of Stephen Hitchcock and Mary (McNeese) Wilkes, was born at Wilkesburg, Covington (now Jefferson Davis) County, Mississippi, on 6 February 1843 and died on 3 September 1863, a casualty of the War Between the States. He married Rhoda Watts in 1859 and they resided in what was then Covington County until his death. The following children were born to this family:

- a. Stephen Frank Wilkes
- b. Elizabeth Wilkes, died of smallpox in infancy

a. STEPHEN FRANK WILKES, son of Henry George and Rhoda (Watts) Wilkes, was born at Wilkesburg, Covington (now Jefferson Davis) County, Mississippi, on 12 March 1861 and died 20 July 1942. At the time of his death, he was living in Vicksburg, Mississippi, and was engaged in the contracting business. He married Emma Lee Pickle on 31 March 1889 and they had the following issue:

- aa. Henry George Wilkes
- bb. Eula Mae Wilkes
- cc. Oscar Frank Wilkes
- dd. Myrtle Velea Wilkes
- ee. Edward W. Wilkes
- ff. Rhoda Bonita Wilkes
- gg. Emma Lee Wilkes
- hh. Mary Alberta Wilkes

aa. HENRY GEORGE WILKES, son of Stephen Frank and Emma Lee (Pickle) Wilkes, was born at Morton, Mississippi, on 7 February 1890. He resides on Route 3, Box 333, Jacksonville, Florida, where he is a carpenter. He married Kate Hawkins on 20 February 1913 and they had the following issue:

Emma Lee Wilkes, born 2 Jan. 1914
Marguerite Wilkes, born 23 Sept. 1915
Herbert Henry Wilkes, born 13 Feb. 1917
Bernice Wilkes, born 3 Oct. 1921
Catherine Wilkes, born 3 July 1926
Benny Hawkins Wilkes, born 2 Dec. 1927

bb. EULA MAE WILKES, daughter of Stephen Frank and Emma Lee (Pickle) Wilkes, was born at Morton, Mississippi, on 13 December 1892. She married James H. T. Thompson at Vicksburg

ABNER WILKES

205

on 9 June 1907. They reside at 1501 Great Street, Vicksburg, where Mr. Thompson is a carpenter. They have the following children:

Inez Thompson Sadie Mae Thompson
Jack Steve Thompson Pat Long Thompson
Billy Valentine Thompson Eula Mae Thompson

cc. OSCAR FRANK WILKES, son of Stephen Frank and Emma Lee (Pickle) Wilkes, was born at Morton, Mississippi, on 7 January 1894. He is a locomotive engineer and lives in Vicksburg. He married Mary Felicia Morrow on 24 December 1916 and they have the following children:

aaa. Myrtle Odile Wilkes bbb. Oscar Frank Wilkes, Jr.
ccc. Wilson Walton Wilkes

aaa. MYRTLE ODILE WILKES, daughter of Oscar Frank and Mary Felicia (Morrow) Wilkes, was born at Vicksburg, Mississippi, on 1 November 1917. She married William Talmadge Sheffield on 6 September 1936. They reside on Lover's Lane, Route 1, Vicksburg, where Mr. Sheffield operates a garage. They have the following children:

Mary Lois Sheffield, born 28 April 1938
William J. Sheffield, born 7 Oct. 1942
Kay Pauline Sheffield, born 21 June 1946

bbb. OSCAR FRANK WILKES, JR., son of Oscar Frank and Mary Felicia (Morrow) Wilkes, was born at Vicksburg, Mississippi, on 21 June 1919. He is a veteran of World War II, where he was a navigator of B-24 bombers, and was honorably discharged on 25 December 1945. At the present time (1949), he is a cost accountant with the U. S. Engineers at Vicksburg, and lives on Lover's Lane (Route 1), Vicksburg. He married Ruby Eugenia Pruitt and they have the following issue:

Mary Eloise Wilkes, born 4 Oct. 1941
Laura Lee Wilkes, born 14 Sept. 1946

ccc. WILSON WALTON WILKES, son of Oscar Frank and Mary Felicia (Morrow) Wilkes, was born at Vicksburg, Mississippi, on 31 January 1921. He is a chemist for Copolymer Rubber Company of Baton Rouge, Louisiana and resides at Denham Springs, Louisiana. He married Margaret Reed on 20 August 1943 and they have the following children:

Wilson Timothy Wilkes, born 7 July 1944
Michael Stephen Wilkes, born 13 Aug. 1945
David Ray Wilkes, born 4 Jan. 1948

dd. MYRTLE VELEA WILKES, daughter of Stephen Frank and Emma Lee (Pickle) Wilkes, was born in Morton, Mississippi,

Pascagoula Public Library
Genealogy & Local History Dept.
Wilkes Family

206 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

on 20 June 1896. She married Robert K. Barnes at Cherryville, Kansas on 15 August 1915. They reside on Wisteria Drive, Vicksburg, Mississippi, where Mr. Barnes owns and operates a wood-working factory. They have the following children:

Ossie Velea Barnes, born 6 June 1916

Samuel Thomas Barnes, born 1 April 1918

ee. EDWARD W. WILKES, son of Stephen Frank and Emma Lee (Pickle) Wilkes, was born in Morton, Mississippi, on 20 February 1898. He is a veteran of World War I, having served in the United States Navy from 1917 to 1919.

ff. RHODA BONITA WILKES, daughter of Stephen Frank and Emma Lee (Pickle) Wilkes, was born at Morton, Mississippi, on 25 March 1900. She married James M. Barnes at Flint, Michigan, on 3 June 1917. They reside on Route 2, Vicksburg, where Mr. Barnes is a retired employee of the Illinois Central Railroad with more than 20 years of service. The following children have been born to them:

Edward Wilkes Barnes, born 15 March 1918

James Clifford Barnes, born 7 Sept. 1921

Isaac Knox Barnes, born 10 April 1923

James Clifford Barnes served in the United States Army Air Corps during World War II.

Edward Wilkes Barnes served in World War II.

gg. EMMA LEE WILKES, daughter of Stephen Frank and Emma Lee (Pickle) Wilkes, was born at Morton, Mississippi, on 24 March 1902. She married Leonard E. Sanders. They reside on Confederate Avenue, Vicksburg, Mississippi, where Mr. Sanders is machinist in the employe of the government. They have the following children:

Leonard E. Sanders, Jr., born 3 June 1923

Christina Sanders, born 13 Aug. 1925

hh. MARY ALBERTA WILKES, daughter of Stephen Frank and Emma Lee (Pickle) Wilkes, was born at Morton, Mississippi, on 30 October 1904. She married Jesse Leist, an employee of the Illinois Central Railroad on 1 August 1920 and they reside on Lover's Lane (Route 1), Vicksburg, Mississippi. They have the following children:

Steve Charles Leist, born 18 Aug. 1921

Jack Hammond Leist, born 26 Aug. 1925

L. SUSAN MALISSA WILKES

SUSAN MALISSA WILKES, daughter of Stephen Hitchcock

ABNER WILKES

207

and Mary (McNeese) Wilkes, was born at Wilkesburg, Covington (now Jefferson Davis) County, Mississippi, on 8 May 1845 and died on 1 March 1928. She was married first to Clinton K. Carter, son of Marcus Elam Carter, and they had a son:

1. Pinckney Calvin Carter, born 20 May 1861

Susan Malissa married, second, George Washington Thurman, son of Hugh and Frances Thurman, at New Orleans, Louisiana. Mr. Thurman was a Confederate veteran and lived near Bassfield in what is now Jefferson Davis County, Mississippi where he was a farmer. Mr. Thurman was born 12 December 1844 and died on 10 February 1910. The following children were born of this second marriage:

2. Mollie Frances Thurman, born 20 August 1864
3. Sarah Jane Thurman, born 10 March 1866
4. Ruhamer Webb Thurman, born 12 Feb. 1868
5. Anna Belzora Thurman, born 12 Oct. 1869
6. Genette Minerva Thurman, born 9 Sept. 1871
7. Martha Louella Thurman, born 4 Dec. 1873
8. Frank Marion Thurman, born 19 Dec. 1874
9. John Evan Thurman, born 28 Aug. 1877
10. George Washington Thurman, Jr., born 21 Dec. 1879
11. Charles Edward Thurman, born 22 May 1882
12. Walter Allen Thurman, born 15 March 1884
13. Houston L. Thurman, b. 23 June 1886; d. 31 July 1886
14. William Maxie Thurman, born 31 July 1890

2. MOLLIE FRANCES THURMAN

MOLLIE FRANCES THURMAN, daughter of George Washington and Susan Malissa (Wilkes) Thurman, was born near what is now Bassfield, Jefferson Davis County, Mississippi. She married Marion Francis Thompson on 20 August 1879. They lived near what is now Bunker Hill, Marion County, Mississippi, where Mr. Thompson farmed. She died on 4 January 1941 and was buried at Bunker Hill Cemetery. The following children were born of this union:

Georgie Marietta Thompson, born 1 June 1883

Mattie Susanna Thompson, born 5 Dec. 1885

Oscar William Thompson, born October 1887

Anna Lenora Thompson, born 13 July 1889

Henry Edgar Thompson, born 20 Oct. 1890

Maggie Lucile Thompson, born 25 July 1898

Mary Ruth Thompson, born 14 July 1904

08 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

3. SARAH JANE THURMAN

SARAH JANE THURMAN, daughter of George Washington and Susan Malissa (Wilkes) Thurman, was born near the present Bassfield, Jefferson Davis County, Mississippi. She died at Jackson, Mississippi, on 20 June 1958. She married John Quitman Bass on 11 November 1884. They lived at Collins, Mississippi, where Mr. Bass was a merchant. The following children were born of this union:

Robert Lowrey Bass, born 11 Aug. 1885
James Clark Bass, born 25 Dec. 1886
Homer Thurman Bass, born 15 March 1889
Roscoe Holmes Bass, born 18 Jan. 1897
Georgia Lenoir Bass, born 2 Nov. 1891
William Alexander Bass
Mary Berry Bass, born 8 Oct. 1904

4. RUHAMER WEBB THURMAN

RUHAMER WEBB THURMAN, daughter of George Washington and Susan Malissa (Wilkes) Thurman, was born near the present Bassfield, Jefferson Davis County, Mississippi. She married Anthony W. Mills, a farmer of Bassfield. She died 10 January 1923 and he died 30 July 1937. They had no issue.

5. ANNA BELZORA THURMAN

ANNA BELZORA THURMAN, daughter of George Washington and Susan Malissa (Wilkes) Thurman, was born near Bassfield, Mississippi. She married Larkin Tyrone at the home of her parents. They lived near Prentiss, Mississippi, where Mr. Tyrone was a farmer. They had the following children:

Buford N. Tyrone, born 3 Jan. 1894
Susan Tyrone, born 30 Jan. 1896
Janie Tyrone, born 17 Oct. 1898
Paul C. Tyrone, born 22 Feb. 1901

6. GENETTE MINERVA THURMAN

GENETTE MINERVA THURMAN, daughter of George Washington and Susan Malissa (Wilkes) Thurman, was born near Bassfield, Mississippi. She married Shelby B. Tyrone, a farmer of Bassfield. She died 2 December 1949 and he died in 1944. They had the following children born to them:

Arthur George Tyrone, born 6 June 1890
Minnie Lee Tyrone, born 7 April 1896
Champ Bruce Tyrone, born 1898
Rease Tyrone, born 29 Jan. 1902

ABNER WILKES

209

7. MARTHA LOUELLA THURMAN

MARTHA LOUELLA THURMAN, daughter of George Washington and Susan Malissa (Wilkes) Thurman, was born near Bassfield, Mississippi. She married Frank Howard Bufkin in Marion County, Mississippi on 21 January 1895. She died 1 February 1946 and was buried at Bunker Hill, Marion County, Mississippi. Mr. Bufkin was a farmer, born 19 April 1872 and died on 5 February 1954. The following children were born of this union:

Dovie Mae Bufkin Emma Irene Bufkin
Addie Lou Bufkin

8. FRANK MARION THURMAN

FRANK MARION THURMAN, son of George Washington and Susan Malissa (Wilkes) Thurman, was born in what was then Covington County, Mississippi. He lived at Gulfport, Mississippi, where he was a carpenter. He died on 16 November 1955 and was buried at Gulfport. He married Sonie Magee (2-14-1869—7-7-1923), daughter of Jack Magee of Lawrence County, Mississippi, and they had the following issue:

Robert Edward Sonie Thurman, born 4 Feb. 1899
Oliver Thurman, born 2 Sept. 1902

Frank Marion Thurman married, second, a Mrs. Gillman of Gulfport, Mississippi, and they had the following children:

Frank Marion Thurman, Jr.
Bettie Sue Thurman

9. JOHN EVAN THURMAN

JOHN EVAN THURMAN, son of George Washington and Susan Malissa (Wilkes) Thurman, was born near what is now Bassfield, Marion County, Mississippi. He was a farmer of the Bassfield area. He died on 31 December 1939 and was buried in the Hathorn Cemetery near Bassfield. He married Nora Grice (1-21-1877—Aug. 1921), daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Grice of the Bunker Hill community of Marion County, Mississippi. They were married at Bunker Hill in the year 1894 and had the following children:

Eura Thurman, born 30 July 1896
Winona Thurman, b. 2 July 1898; d. 2 July 1898
Lillie Thurman, born 14 July 1900
Houston Thurman, born 21 Sept. 1902
Forest Thurman, b. 16 May 1905; d. 7 Oct. 1959

10. GEORGE WASHINGTON THURMAN, JR.

GEORGE WASHINGTON THURMAN, JR. was born in what

210 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

was then Covington but now Jefferson Davis County, Mississippi. He was a farmer and lived at Gulfport, Mississippi, where he died on 19 November 1957. He was buried at Gulfport. Mr. Thurman married Mary Orievas at Gulfport. They had no children.

11. CHARLES EDWARD THURMAN

CHARLES EDWARD THURMAN, son of George Washington and Susan Malissa (Wilkes) Thurman, was born in what was then Covington County (now Jefferson Davis County), Mississippi. He is a farmer and lives at Prentiss, Mississippi. He married Etta Irene Miller, daughter of Vernon Terrell Miller, at Prentiss on 10 June 1908. They have the following children:

George Clyde Thurman, born 20 Jan. 1910
Virgil Terrell Thurman, born 7 June 1914

12. WALTER ALLEN THURMAN

WALTER ALLEN THURMAN, son of George Washington and Susan Malissa (Wilkes) Thurman, was born near Bassfield, Mississippi. He lived at Prentiss, Mississippi, and was a farmer. He died on 18 November 1955 and was buried at Prentiss. Mr. Thurman married Lillie Polk, daughter of Isaac Knox Polk, at Bassfield on 2 December 1923. She was born at Prentiss on 18 July 1897 and died there on 16 May 1958, burial was at Prentiss. No children were born of this marriage.

14. WILLIAM MAXIE THURMAN

WILLIAM MAXIE THURMAN, son of George Washington and Susan Malissa (Wilkes) Thurman, was born near what is now Bassfield, Jefferson Davis County, Mississippi. He remained with his mother and other members of the family when his father died and looked out for the farm that he now owns and operates. In 1933 he started working with the AAA Programs, the first introduced in Mississippi, and remained with this work and the Federal Insurance Corporation for 18 years. From 1951 to 1958, he was in the insurance business. He served on the Jefferson Davis County School Board for 20 years. He is a Mason, Woodman of the World, and a member of Bassfield Baptist Church.

William Maxie Thurman and Maggie Agnes Speights, daughter of Michael O'Rourke Speights, were married in Jefferson Davis County, Mississippi, on 23 December 1912 and had the following issue:

- a. Woodrow Wilson Thurman
- b. Joyce A. Thurman
- c. George William Thurman

ABNER WILKES

211

a. WOODROW WILSON THURMAN, son of William Maxie and Maggie Agnes (Speights) Thurman, was born at Bassfield, Mississippi, on 30 September 1913. He lives at Woodville, Mississippi, where he is with the U. S. Department of Agriculture, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, in the capacity of inspector. He received his B. A. degree from Mississippi College in 1935. From 1935 to May 1937, he was County Superintendent of Adult Education of Jefferson Davis County, Mississippi; from May 1937 to May 1942, he was on the State Board of Health, Sanitarium, Mississippi; from May 1942 to March 1946, he was in military service; from March 1946 to March 1949, he was with the Florida State Board of Health; from March 1949 to April 1958, he was again at Sanitarium, Mississippi, on the State Board of Health; from May 1958 to the present time, he has been a livestock inspector for the U. S. Department of Agriculture. His military service in World War II was as follows: Entered service on 7 May 1942 and served in the medical branch of the Army at Camp Shelby, Mississippi, in 85th Infantry Division, Company C, 310th Medical Battalion in the rank of private to sergeant until October 10th, 1942; Training Cadre to 103d Infantry Division, 528th Medical Battalion, Camp Claiborne, Louisiana until 1 August 1943 in the rank of first sergeant to staff sergeant; commissioned officer, Sanitary Engineer, Sanitary Corps, U. S. Army Air Corps, Maxwell Field, Alabama, assistant to medical inspector, in rank of second lieutenant to captain; honorably discharged 16 March 1946.

Woodrow Wilson Thurman and Alice Kathlee Burkett, daughter of Fleet Cooper and Elouise (Thompson) Burkett, were married at Columbia, Mississippi, on 5 October 1942 and they had the following issue:

Jean Claire Thurman, born 2 Sept. 1945

Janet Luella Thurman, born 16 May 1952

b. JOYCE A. THURMAN, daughter of William Maxie and Maggie Agnes (Speights) Thurman, was born at Bassfield, Mississippi, on 24 October 1921. She married William Henry at Bassfield on 8 December 1945. They live on Route 5, Vicksburg, Mississippi, where they farm. The following children were born of this union:

Isaac Newton Henry, born 25 Aug. 1947

William Maxie Henry, born 20 Aug. 1948

Joyce Henry, born 20 Aug. 1948

Janice Henry, born 26 April 1950

Raymond Edgar Henry, b. 27 April 1951; d. 30 April 1951

Still born baby, born 27 Nov. 1952

212 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

c. GEORGE WILLIAM THURMAN, son of William Maxie and Maggie Agnes (Speights) Thurman, was born at Bassfield, Mississippi, on 16 March 1923. He lives at Bassfield, where he is a motel cashier. He is a veteran of World War II with the following service: volunteered for service in the U. S. Army on 28 January 1942; had boot training at Fort Knox, Kentucky; joined the First Armored Division and was shipped overseas 10 May 1942; joined the First Ranger Battalion in June 1942; participated in five major campaigns in the European Theater of Operations; was captured by the Germans on 30 January 1944 and was liberated by the Russians 22 April 1945; honorably discharged on 9 September 1945. He received the following decorations: Silver Star; Purple Heart; Combat Infantry Badge; Unit Citation with two clusters.

George William Thurman and Windelin Polk, daughter of Rodney and Estelle (Armstrong) Polk, were married at Bassfield, Mississippi, on 15 November 1946 and they have the following child:

George Rodney Thurman, born 26 Sept. 1947

V. ASA WILKES

ASA (ACEY) WILKES, son of Abner and Martha Wilkes, was born in Chester County, South Carolina in⁶¹ 1798. He, with his mother and unmarried sisters, moved to Morgan County, Alabama, about 1822. It is thought that the move was made to join John Cranford and his family. John Cranford had married a sister of Asa Wilkes, and had moved to Morgan County about 1822. It is possible that Asa and his mother and sisters moved to Alabama along with John Cranford and his family.

Asa Wilkes and Hester Barclay were married in Morgan County, Alabama on 9 March 1825⁶². She was the daughter of Robert Barclay, who was born in Ireland in 1763 and came to South Carolina with his father in 1769, served as a private under General Sumter towards the close of the Revolutionary War, and migrated to Morgan County in 1816 where he died on 26 July 1848⁶³. Asa Wilkes was a farmer and moved to Fayette County, Alabama shortly after his marriage. He was buried at Cedar Grove Cemetery in the eastern part of Fayette County. The following children were born of this marriage:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| A. Robert Wilkes | B. James Wilkes |
| C. Sarah Wilkes, never married | D. Mordecai Dabney Wilkes |

61. U. S. Census records

62. Morgan County, Ala. Marriage Records, Book A, page 73

63. *History of Alabama and Alabama Biography*, by Thomas M. Owens, Vol. III, page 96

ABNER WILKES

213

Asa Wilkes married, second, Elizabeth Jenkins and they had the following issue:

E. Mary Wilkes

A. ROBERT WILKES

ROBERT WILKES, son of Asa and Hester (Barclay) Wilkes, was born in Morgan County about 1827. It has been stated that he moved to San Saba County, Texas, where he married and had three daughters. No further information of this family has been obtained.

B. JAMES WILKES

JAMES, son of Asa and Hester (Barclay) Wilkes, was born in Alabama about 1830. It is reported that he went to Texas and died there without issue. No further information has been obtained about him.

D. MORDECAI DABNEY WILKES

MORDECAI DABNEY WILKES, son of Asa and Hester (Barclay) Wilkes, was born in Fayette County, Alabama, in 1838 and died there on 1 July 1920. Burial was at Cedar Grove Cemetery, about four miles north of Fayette, Alabama. He spelled the family name "Wilks." He was a farmer and a Confederate soldier. He enlisted in Fayette, Alabama, on 29 May 1862 and served in Company I, 41st Alabama Infantry Regiment and was a Fourth Corporal at the end of the war⁶⁴.

He married Charlotte (Lottie) Savage in Fayette County, Alabama, on 26 December 1869 at the home of John Savage, the ceremony being performed by Rev. L. M. Wimberly. The following children were born of this union:

1. Virgie Wilkes
2. John Asa Wilkes, b. 29 Dec. 1873; d. 15 Feb. 1899
3. Charlie Robert Wilkes
4. Ernest Langdon Wilkes
5. Sallie Lee Wilkes, b. 9. Nov. 1882; d. 14 July 1888
6. Clyde Thomas Wilkes

1. VIRGIE WILKES

VIRGIE WILKES, daughter of Mordecai Dabney and Charlotte (Savage) Wilkes, was born in Fayette County, Alabama, on 18 November 1871 and died on 16 January 1953. Burial was at Bethlehem Cemetery, four miles north of Fayette, Alabama. She married, first, J. M. Thomason in Texas and they had no issue, she later married

64. Alabama Civil War Records, Montgomery, Ala.

214 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

William J. Jones of Parish, Alabama and they had no children. She was postmistress at Natural Bridge, Winston County, Alabama for several years.

3. CHARLIE ROBERT WILKES

CHARLIE ROBERT WILKES, son of Mordecai Dabney and Charlotte (Savage) Wilkes, was born in Fayette County, Alabama, on 10 July 1876 and died on 1 June 1958. Burial was at the graveyard of Bethlehem Methodist Church, Rev. A. M. Nix conducted the burial ceremony. At the time of his death, he was farming on Winfield Road, Route 3, Fayette, Alabama. He married Birdie White, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. G. White, at Fayette on 29 March 1906 and they had the following issue:

- a. Susie Wilkes, b. 18 Feb. 1907; d. 6 March 1925
- b. Sarah Emma Wilkes
- c. Mary Edith Wilkes

b. SARAH EMMA WILKES, daughter of Charlie Robert and Birdie (White) Wilkes, was born near Fayette, Alabama, on 12 October 1910. She married Ellsworth Moss on 12 September 1931. They reside at Winfield, Marion County, Alabama, where Mr. Moss is the commissioner of District No. 2. They have the following issue:

Hazel Moss, born 3 March 1932

c. MARY EDITH WILKES, daughter of Charlie Robert and Birdie (White) Wilkes, was born near Fayette, Alabama, on 26 April 1917. She married Clarence Musgrove in Marion County, Alabama, on 13 March 1935. They live at Fayette, Alabama, where Mr. Musgrove is engaged in logging. The following children have been born to them:

William Musgrove, born 20 Oct. 1936
Robert Louis Musgrove, born 7 May 1942

4. ERNEST LANGDON WILKES

ERNEST LANGDON WILKES, son of Mordecai Dabney and Charlotte (Savage) Wilkes, was born near Fayette, Alabama on 8 October 1879 and died at Dallas, Texas on 21 September 1914, burial was back in Fayette County, Alabama. He married Irene Bayes Hendrick in Dallas County, Texas in the year 1904. His wife died on 26 September 1948 and was buried at Cedar Hill, Texas. At the time of his death, Mr. Wilkes was a building contractor. He spelled the family name "Wilks", but Wilkes is used throughout this volume to avoid confusion and for uniformity. They had the

ABNER WILKES

215

following issue:

- a. Ernest Langdon Wilkes, Jr.

a. ERNEST LANGDON WILKES, JR., son of Ernest Langdon and Irene Bayes (Hendrick) Wilkes, was born at Dallas, Texas on 12 October 1906. He prefers to spell the family name "Wilks". He lives in Dallas, Texas and conducts the Ernest L. Wilks Company, manufacturers' representatives, at 1212 Camp Street in that city. Mr. Wilkes married Sadie Caroline Reaves at Corsicana, Texas on 18 October 1927 and they had the following issue:

- aa. Ernest Langdon Wilkes, III

Ernest Langdon Wilkes, Jr. married, second, Marydell Holliday, daughter of John W. and Mary Ann (Callahan) Holliday, at Dallas, Texas on 30 December 1951 and they have no issue.

aa. ERNEST LANGDON WILKES, III, son of Ernest Langdon Wilkes, Jr. and Sadie Caroline Reaves, was born in Dallas, Texas on 21 February 1929. He lives in Dallas and is the office manager of the Ernest L. Wilks Company.

Ernest Langdon Wilkes, III married Hilda Ferne Martin at Dallas on 13 June 1952 and they had the following born to them:

Richard Langdon Wilkes, born 24 Jan. 1953

Lawrence Allen Wilkes, born 24 Dec. 1953

He married, second, Patsy Louise Wells on 31 August 1957 and they have the following born to them:

Sherrill Lynn Wilkes, born 17 March 1958

6. CLYDE THOMAS WILKES

CLYDE THOMAS WILKES, son of Mordecai Dabney and Charlotte (Savage) Wilkes, was born near Fayette, Alabama on 5 February 1888 and died at Siluria, Shelby County, Alabama on 22 March 1928. Burial was at Fayette. He was a farmer of Fayette County. He married Mavis Dodson in Fayette County, Alabama. His widow lives at 3045 Pearson Avenue, S. W., Birmingham, Alabama. The following children were born of this marriage:

- a. John Asa Wilkes
- b. Elton Kermit Wilkes
- c. James Clyde Wilkes

a. JOHN ASA WILKES, son of Clyde Thomas and Mavis (Dodson) Wilkes, was born near Fayette, Alabama on 14 January 1909. He resides at 3045 Pearson Avenue, Southwest, Birmingham, Alabama. He married Eleanor Marie Moore at Columbus, Mississippi on 27 May 1946 and they have the following children:

Vanda Sue Wilkes, born 11 Dec. 1947

Thomas Charles Wilkes, born 10 May 1950

216 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

Joseph Clyde Wilkes, born 24 April 1952

b. ELTON KERMIT WILKES, son of Clyde Thomas and Mavis (Dodson) Wilkes, was born near Fayette, Alabama on 18 November 1911. He resides at 1447 Lauderdale Street, Lakewood, Ohio, where he is a press operator. He served in the U. S. Army 17 June 1938 to 17 June 1941. He married Virgie Hubbert at Fayette, Alabama on 4 April 1942 and they have the following issue:

Barbara Jean Wilkes, born 31 Dec. 1945

c. JAMES CLYDE WILKES, son of Clyde Thomas and Mavis (Dodson) Wilkes, was born near Fayette, Alabama on 7 June 1916. He resides at 104 Pembroke Road, Oak Ridge, Tennessee, where he is a welder at one of the atomic energy plants that produced the first atomic bomb. Prior to employment at Oak Ridge in 1952, he worked as a welder in Birmingham, Alabama and other places, having been in this class of work since shortly before the beginning of World War II. He prefers to spell the family name "Wilks". He married Elsie Julia Jordan at Vernon, Alabama on 12 October 1934 and they have the following children:

aa. William Clyde Wilkes bb. Betty Jane Wilkes

aa. WILLIAM CLYDE WILKES, son of James Clyde and Elsie Julia (Jordan) Wilkes, was born near Fayette, Alabama on 19 September 1936. He is serving in the United States Navy at the present time, having enlisted at Knoxville, Tennessee on 28 December 1954. He received basic training and attended the radio school at the Naval Training Station, San Diego, California. He served two years at the Naval Air Station, Atsuigi, Japan and is now serving as radioman on the carrier *Lexington*.

bb. BETTY JANE WILKES, daughter of James Clyde and Elsie Julia (Jordan) Wilkes, was born near Fayette, Alabama on 24 July 1938. She married a Mr. Dillon at Rossville, Georgia on 13 October 1955. She is divorced and lives at 184 Hillside Avenue, Oak Ridge, Tennessee, where she is employed as a secretary. The following child was born of this marriage:

Billy Joe Dillon, born 3 Aug. 1956

E. MARY WILKES

MARY WILKES, daughter of Asa and Elizabeth (Jenkins) Wilkes, was born near Fayette, Alabama on 15 October 1856 and died on 25 December 1883. She was buried at Cedar Grove Cemetery. She married George W. Gardner in Fayette County, Alabama, and it is said that they had a daughter born to them.

VI. MARTHA WILKES

MARTHA WILKES, daughter of Abner and Martha Wilkes

ABNER WILKES

217

was born in Chester County, South Carolina about 1802. She was living with her mother in Chester County in 1822, when her mother and others of the family then in that county sold the land that they were living on and moved to Morgan County, Alabama. It is believed that she was the Martha Wilkes who married Zachariah Medford in Morgan County on 5 March 1830, the marriage being solemnized by J. D. Conway, Justice of the Peace⁶⁵. The 1830 census of Morgan County lists Zachariah Medford as head of household of one male 20 to 30 years of age, and one female 20 to 30 years of age. No further record of this family has been obtained.

CHAPTER THREE

ELIZABETH WILKES

SARAH WILKES

NANCY WILKES

JOHN B. WILKES

VII. ELIZABETH WILKES

ELIZABETH WILKES, daughter of Abner and Jerusha (Brown) Wilkes, was born in Fairfield County, South Carolina about 1804⁶⁶. She married Elijah Crider in Copiah County, Mississippi, where her parents were living near what later became Bow-erton, 19 May 1824⁶⁷. They lived and farmed in the southwestern section of Copiah County, near where Abner Wilkes lived. It is likely that Elijah Crider was a son of John Crider, who was living in Copiah County before Elijah was married. The following children were born of this union⁶⁸:

- A. Amanda B. Crider, born ca. 1826
- B. Abner W. Crider, born ca. 1828
- C. Mary Elizabeth Crider, b. 9 Jan. 1830; d. 17 Sept. 1833⁶⁹
- D. Thomas P. Crider, born ca. 1832; d. of typhoid fever ca. 1852
- E. Caroline M. Crider, born ca. 1834
- F. John W. (Wesley) Crider, born ca. 1836
- G. Jacob Crider, born ca. 1838
- H. Stephen Crider, b. ca. 1840; d. about 1860
- I. Letha Ann Crider, b. ca. 1842
- J. Elijah Likly Crider, born ca. 1844
- K. Nancy Crider, born ca. 1846

65. Marriage Records, Morgan County, Alabama

66. Based on 1850 U. S. Census

67. Marriage Records, Copiah County, Mississippi

68. Dates of birth based on census and family records

69. Dates from grave marker, old Sweetwater Methodist Church Cemetery near where the Wilkes and Criders lived

218 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

J. ELIJAH LIKLY CRIDER

ELIJAH LIKLY CRIDER, son of Elijah and Elizabeth (Wilkes) Crider, was born in Copiah County, Mississippi and was a farmer. His parents moved from Copiah to Franklin County, Mississippi when Elijah was about 8 or 9 years of age, and he (Elijah) has lived near Lucien in Franklin County ever since. He was a Confederate soldier with service in the 36th Mississippi Infantry, Company A, Captain T. J. Christman commanding. He was living with his son, J. O. Crider, when he applied for a pension on 7 August 1920⁷⁰.

Elijah Likly Crider married Martha Magdeline Miller and they had the following children⁷¹.

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Margaret Crider | 2. Wesley Crider |
| 3. Jerusha Matilda Crider | 4. Robert Morton Crider |
| 5. Rebecca Ann Crider | 6. Abner M. Crider |
| 7. James Oscar Crider | 8. Catherine Elizabeth Crider |
| 9. Elijah Marvin Crider | 10. Stephen Timothy Crider |

7. JAMES OSCAR CRIDER

JAMES OSCAR CRIDER, son of Elijah Likly and Martha Magdeline (Miller) Crider, was born about 1875. He lives near Lucien, Franklin County, Mississippi, where he is farming. His mind is good, and he remembers well that his grandmother, Elizabeth Wilkes Crider, was a sister of Sarah Wilkes who married Samuel Gilbert in Copiah County, Mississippi, on 15 April 1824⁷². Elijah Crider was bondsman for Mr. Gilbert. He remembers that his grandmother, Elizabeth Wilkes Crider, was related to John Ira Wilkes and that Pollard Daley Mullins, son of Pollard and Nancy Eliza (Wilkes) Mullins, often visited with his grandmother, Elizabeth (Wilkes) Crider. It is a matter of record that John Ira Wilkes, son of John B. Wilkes, went to live with Elijah and Elizabeth (Wilkes) Crider after the death of John B. Wilkes.

James Oscar Crider married Alice McFarland and they had the following daughter, who married, first, Marshall Garrett Godbold and, second, Leonard Lewis. He was the father of:

Elizabeth Eudora Crider, born in year 1907

VIII. SARAH WILKES

SARAH WILKES, daughter of Abner and Jerusha (Brown)

⁷⁰ Records of Miss. Department of Archives and History
⁷¹ Information furnished by Mr. James Oscar Crider
⁷² Marriage Records of Copiah County, Miss.

ABNER WILKES

219

Wilkes, married Samuel Gilbert in Copiah County, Mississippi, on 15 April 1824 with Elijah Crider as Bondsman⁷³. No further information has been obtained of this family, who it is reported went to Louisiana.

IX. NANCY ELIZA WILKES

NANCY ELIZA WILKES, daughter of Abner and Jerusha (Brown) Wilkes, married Pollard Mullins in Copiah County, Mississippi, on 2 August 1829⁷⁴. Samuel B. Gilbert was bondsman for Mullins. Pollard was a son of James and Temperance (Seale) Mullins; James Mullins was a son of Revolutionary soldier Clement Mullins of Franklin County, North Carolina⁷⁵. Clement Mullins migrated to Georgia about 1783 and about 1820 he settled in Copiah County, Mississippi. Temperance Seale's father was Thomas Seale, a Revolutionary soldier from North Carolina⁷⁶. She was born 7 December 1786. The children of Pollard and Nancy Eliza (Wilkes) Mullins were the following:

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| A. Green Berry Mullins | B. Joel M. Mullins |
| C. Elizabeth Mullins | D. Martha Ann Mullins |
| E. Jackson Mullins | F. George Mullins |
| G. Mary Minerva Mullins | H. William Mullins |
| I. Daley Mullins | J. Preston Mullins |

K. Francis J. Mullins

Pollard Mullins died in July 1857 and his widow married Elijah Carney of Lawrence County, Mississippi, on 28 September 1858. Both Pollard Mullins and Elijah Carney were farmers of Lawrence County. The following child was born of the second marriage:

L. Virginia Floyd Carney

G. MARY MINERVA MULLINS

MARY MINERVA MULLINS, daughter of Pollard and Nancy Eliza (Wilkes) Mullins, was born in Lawrence County, Mississippi, on 31 August 1848. She married John Dunn on 27 January 1866. They lived in Lincoln County, Mississippi, where Mr. Dunn engaged in farming. The following children were born of this union:

1. John Fred Dunn, born 23 Sept. 1868
2. Joseph Peyton Dunn, born 24 May 1870
3. William Albert Dunn, born 17 March 1872
4. Samuel Archie Dunn, born 10 Feb. 1874

⁷³ Marriage Records of Copiah County, Miss.

⁷⁴ Marriage Records, Copiah County, Miss.

⁷⁵ Miss. Rev. soldiers, by Alice Tracy Welch, Page 220

⁷⁶ Ibid, page 268

20 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

5. Walter Scott Dunn, born 28 Feb. 1876
6. Andrew Jackson Dunn, born 7 March 1878
7. Sarah Ada Dunn, born 18 Feb. 1880
8. Edward Theodore Dunn, born 7 May 1882
9. Mamie Abi Dunn, born 24 Oct. 1884
10. Green Mullins Dunn, born 8 Feb. 1886

8. EDWARD THEODORE DUNN

EDWARD THEODORE DUNN, was born in Lincoln County, Mississippi. He married Maidie C. Willis in Lincoln County on 16 August 1908 and they had the following issue:

- a. Beatrice Dunn, born 16 August 1909
- b. Ella Mae Dunn, born 28 July 1911
- c. Edward Theodore Dunn, Jr., born 4 Feb. 1921

a. BEATRICE DUNN, daughter of Edward Theodore and Maidie C. (Willis) Dunn, was born in Lincoln County, Mississippi. She married John Ralph Loper on 16 April 1941. They reside in Brookhaven, Mississippi and have the following children:

- Maidie Willis Loper, born 5 March 1942
John Michael Loper, born 25 May 1943
Susan Giles Loper, born 24 Jan. 1948
Lila Karen Loper, born 12 Jan. 1949

X. JOHN B. WILKES

JOHN B. (probably for Brown) WILKES, son of Abner and Jerusha (Brown) Wilkes, was born near Columbia, Marion County, Mississippi, on 8 March 1819. He was living with his parents in Copiah County, Mississippi, in 1824 and administered the estate of his father in that county in 1839 to 1842. He married Oney Rebecca Pritchard in Copiah County on 19 January 1841, with William H. Mullins as bondsman⁷⁷. Oney Rebecca was born 20 March 1823 and was a daughter of John and Elizabeth Pritchard.

In 1842, after closing out his father's estate, Mr. Wilkes moved to Claiborne Parish, Louisiana, and settled about five miles south of Homer, where he farmed. He became the owner of large land holdings and many slaves. The records of Claiborne Parish contain many deeds covering the purchase or, and sale of land and slaves from 1842 to the early part of 1860. He bought property from William Pritchard in December 1849. One of the interesting documents is the record showing that John B. Wilkes was to compensate his wife for the money and slaves she possessed when they married in 1841, including interest at 8% for the use of her property and

⁷⁷. Marriage Records of Copiah County, Mississippi

ABNER WILKES

221

money. This is dated 3 July 1856 and we surmise that this was done to protect the interests of their minor children since, according to tradition, her health was failing. Mrs. Wilkes sold part of her estate in Copiah County, Mississippi, to Elijah W. Crider on 14 December 1853 (recorded in Copiah County, also in Claiborne Parish).

Due to serious illness of both John B. and Oney R. Wilkes, they sold their property in Louisiana in 1856-58 and invested the proceeds in cash and slaves that were divided among their children, who were placed with relatives. John Ira Wilkes went to live with Elijah and Elizabeth (Wilkes) Crider; Samuel Warren Wilkes went to the family of Liberty and Rebecca Warren of Marion County; and Martha Jane and William Henry were placed with Henry and Sarah (Pope) Pritchard of Marion County; it is believed that Mary Elizabeth was placed with the Elijah Crider family, but the 1860 census does not list her in the family. Oney Rebecca Wilkes died 25 January 1858 and John B. Wilkes died of cancer on 25 April 1860 while he was living with relatives near Columbia, Mississippi. It is believed that they were buried in unmarked graves near Columbia, but nothing has been found to verify this. The following children were born of this union:

1. Mary Elizabeth Wilkes, born 13 Feb. 1843
2. John Ira Wilkes, born 4 Dec. 1846
3. Samuel Warren Wilkes, born 15 May 1849
4. Martha Jane Wilkes, born 8 Jan. 1852
5. William Henry Wilkes, born 23 Aug. 1853
6. Mary Eugenia Wilkes, b. July 1855; d. in infancy

1. MARY ELIZABETH WILKES

MARY ELIZABETH WILKES, daughter of John B. and Oney Rebecca (Pritchard) Wilkes, was born in Copiah County, Mississippi, near the present Bowerton. She married Helaire Doré of France at Saint Paul's Catholic Church in Pass Christian, Mississippi in 1862⁷⁸. Helaire Doré was born in 1832 and operated a country store at Pass Christian⁷⁹. He returned to France to see about property, reported as a fortune, and did not come back to America as far as known to the family. The following children were born of this marriage:

- a. Marie Rosalie Doré, born 12 Aug. 1863
- b. John Randolph Tillman Doré, born August 1865
- c. Edward Francis Doré, born in 1867
- d. Martha Doré

⁷⁸. Vol. II, page 49, No. 1 St. Paul's record

⁷⁹. U. S. census of Harrison County, Miss.

Pascagoula Public Library
Genealogy & Local History Dept.
Wilkes Family

222 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

- e. Emile Napoleon Doré, April 1, 1871
- f. Samuel Doré

Mrs. Doré and infant children, Martha and Samuel, are reported to have died in a yellow fever epidemic that took many lives along the Gulf Coast of Mississippi.

a. MARIE ROSALIE DORÉ, daughter of Helaire and Mary Elizabeth (Wilkes) Doré, was born at Bay St. Louis, Mississippi, on 12 August 1863. After the death of her mother and two or three brothers and sisters during a yellow fever epidemic, she and her brothers Edward Francis, and Emile Napoleon, and John Randolph Tillman went to live with their uncle, John Ira Wilkes, in Martin, Tennessee. Marie Rosalie attended public schools in Martin and went to Whitworth College, Brookhaven, Mississippi. She later attended college in St. Louis, Missouri. Her main interests were her family and her church. She was always ready to help boys and girls in getting an education.

She married Lucien McMillan at Bayou Sara, Louisiana, on 13 November 1885. He was born 1 November 1858 at Shady Grove, Louisiana, a son of Adolphus and Angelina (Bateman) McMillan. Lucien's father was a merchant at Varnado, Louisiana. Lucien grew up in the business and later operated the store and a farm. He was known in his community as a devout member of the Methodist Church and a good neighbor. It was said by friends and neighbors that "Lucien's word is as good as the law". He died on 2 April 1945. He and his wife are buried in the cemetery at Varnado, Louisiana.

The following children were born of this marriage:

- aa. Claudia Angelina McMillan, born 21 March 1887
- bb. John Leslie McMillan, b. 27 July 1889;
d. unmarried 12 Dec. 1916
- cc. Vivian Eula McMillan, born 4 Aug. 1891
- dd. Lemuel Lucien McMillan, b. 17 June 1893;
d. unmarried in 1945
- ee. Clarence Eugene McMillan, born 9 July 1895
- ff. Alma Louvenia McMillan, born 11 May 1897
- gg. Eva May McMillan, b. 17 Aug. 1899; d. 17 June 1916
- hh. Edward Emile McMillan, born 3 Aug. 1904

aa. CLAUDIA ANGELINA McMILLAN, daughter of Lucien and Marie Rosalie (Doré) McMillan, was born at Angie, Louisiana. She married Dr. Warren Henry Crain at Varnado, Louisiana, on 24 May 1904. Dr. Crain died on 14 November 1907. They had the following issue:

- aaa. Donies Wendell Crain, born 22 Feb. 1907

ABNER WILKES

223

Claudia Angelina McMillan married, second, Robert Edward Millican at Gretna, Louisiana, in 1912. They resided in Jackson, Mississippi, where he died 26 March 1939. Claudia Angelina died on 4 August 1921 at the birth of an infant that died the same day. They had the following issue:

- bbb. George Edward Millican, born in 1914
- ccc. Infant born and died 4 Aug. 1921

aaa. DONIES WENDELL CRAIN, son of Dr. Warren Henry and Claudia Angelina (McMillan) Crain, was born at Varnado, Louisiana. He is a veteran of World War II, with Army service in the Pacific Area. He married Amy Lillian Tolbert at Zachary, Louisiana, on 8 July 1938. They reside at La Place, Louisiana, where Mr. Crain is in the insurance business.

bbb. GEORGE EDWARD MILLICAN, son of Robert Edward and Claudia Angelina McMillan (Crain) Millican, was born at Jackson, Mississippi. He married Rose Imogene Hall at Vicksburg, Mississippi in 1936 and they had the following issue:

Rose Marie Millican Claudia Ann Millican

ROSE MARIE MILLICAN was born at Vicksburg, Mississippi, on 6 February 1937 and died at Grenada, Mississippi, June 1958. She married Jerry Dee Blue at Grenada on 24 August 1956 and they have a son:

Jerry Dee Blue, Jr., born 19 May 1958

CLAUDIA ANN MILLICAN was born in Vicksburg, Mississippi, on 15 April 1938. She married Dale Spence at Santa Anna, California, in June 1957. Mr. Spence has served with the U. S. Marines. They have the following issue:

Richard Allen Spence, born 5 June 1959

cc. VIVIAN EULA McMILLAN, daughter of Lucien and Marie Rosalie (Doré) McMillan, was born at Varnado, Louisiana. She married John James Babington on 20 March 1910. They reside at Franklinton, Louisiana. Their children are the following:

aaa. Max Kenneth Babington, born at Franklinton, Louisiana on 10 January 1911. He is a veteran of World War II with 3½ years service. He resides in Franklinton and is the assistant assessor of Washington Parish. He married Amelia Stringfield at Franklinton on 9 September 1943.

bbb. John James Babington, Jr., born 24 May 1914; killed in an automobile accident 4 August 1940.

ccc. Eva Marie Babington, b. 1 Jan. 1919; d. in infancy.

ee. CLARENCE EUGENE McMILLAN, son of Lucien and Marie Rosalie (Doré) McMillan, was born at Angie, Louisiana. He

224 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

is a veteran of World War II, with service as a corporal with the 338th Battalion, Company B. He resides at 522 East Rutland Street, Covington, Louisiana. He married Lela Fatheree at Talisheek, Louisiana, on 20 November 1920 and they had the following issue:

Clarence Eugene McMillan, Jr.

CLARENCE EUGENE McMILLAN, JR. was born at Covington, Louisiana, on 13 July 1923. He graduated from Covington High School and then went to Louisiana State University and obtained a degree in chemical engineering. He served as first lieutenant in Heavy Automotive Maintenance in the European Theater of Operations in World War II. At present he resides in Baltimore, Maryland, where he is a chemical engineer for Pure Oil Company. He married Jane Helene Heagler on 14 June 1948 and they have the following children:

Darryl Jane McMillan, born 24 Dec. 1949

Lela Katherine McMillan, born 30 April 1951

ff. ALMA LOUVENIA McMILLAN, daughter of Lucien and Marie Rosalie (Doré) McMillan, was born at Angie, Louisiana. She married Stephen Clayton Armstrong at Vaiden, Mississippi, on 8 April 1917. Mr. Armstrong was born on 7 July 1893 and died on 10 March 1953. Mrs. Armstrong is now on the staff of the Mississippi Southern University, Hattiesburg, Mississippi. This marriage was without issue.

hh. EDWARD EMILE McMILLAN, son of Lucien and Marie Rosalie (Doré) McMillan, was born at Varnado, Louisiana. He married Glayds Lynette Richardson of Franklinton, Louisiana, where they now reside. They have the following issue:

aaa. Mary Linda McMillan, born 7 Jan. 1938

bbb. Gladys Susan McMillan, b. 25 Feb. 1943; d. 13 Dec. 1943

aaa. MARY LINDA McMILLAN married David Lawrence Steinwinder of Bogalusa, Louisiana, at Franklinton, Louisiana on 21 August 1960.

b. JOHN RANDOLPH TILLMAN DORÉ, son of Helaire ("Eli") and Mary Elizabeth (Wilkes) Doré, was born in August 1865. He was an officer at Texas State Penitentiary, and was living in Rush, Texas before and at the time of his death. He married Katherine ----- (last name not obtained) and they had a daughter:

Vassie Doré

c. EDWARD FRANCES DORÉ, son of Helaire and Mary Elizabeth (Wilkes) Doré, was born in Bay Saint Louis, Mississippi, in 1867 and died in New Orleans, Louisiana, in 1939. He was buried

ABNER WILKES

225

in Mt. Olive Cemetery, Varnado, Louisiana. He finished high school at Martin, Tennessee, and studied one year at the University of Tennessee. "Eddie", as he was known to his Wilkes cousins, was always full of pranks and fun and loved to dance, in which he excelled most others. It was a grand occasion when the cousins, "Eddie" and his brother Emile, came to visit the Wilkes relatives in Louisiana as they were both entertaining. They had most interesting tales to tell of their travels. Sam Wilkes, also an orphan and first cousin of "Eddie" and Emile, said that the Doré brothers were looking for the "Pot of gold at the end of the rainbow and just can't settle down in one place". This probably accounted for many of their trips, like the one to Venezuela at the time of the early oil boom there, which must have caused much concern to their wives and children. Edward was a member of the Methodist Church.

Edward Francis Doré married Marie Jeanne Pecot, daughter of Charles and Marie (de la Houssaye) Pecot. She was born in Iberia Parish, Louisiana, on 8 September 1881 and died on 16 September 1932, burial was in Catacombs Forest Park Cemetery, Houston, Texas. They lived on the Adeline Plantation, Jeanerette, Louisiana. Their children were the following:

aa. Honorah Argyll Doré, born 12 April 1902; unmarried and lives at 2607 Yupton Street, Houston, Texas.

bb. Marye Wilhelmina Doré, born 8 June 1904

cc. Edward Randolph Tillman Doré, born 5 June 1906

dd. Marguerite Maryland Doré, born 10 July 1908

ee. Catherine Carmen Doré, born 13 July 1910

ff. John Lind Doré, born 16 July 1913

bb. MARYE WILHELMINA DORÉ, daughter of Edward Francis and Marie Jeanne (Pecot) Doré, was born at Franklin, Louisiana. She married Arthur John Thomas at Houston, Texas, on 19 July 1926. They reside at 2209 New Jersey Street, Baytown, Texas. They have a daughter who is in Graduate School, University of Texas:

Joanne Marye Thomas, born 3 Sept. 1930

cc. EDWARD RANDOLPH TILLMAN DORÉ, son of Edward Francis and Marie Jeanne (Pecot) Doré, was born on the Adeline Plantation, Jeanerette, Louisiana. He is a veteran of World War II and is in the cotton brokerage business. He married Mary Edith Schulken at Wilmington, North Carolina, on 5 June 1934 and they have no children. They reside at 121 East Third Street, Charlotte, North Carolina.

dd. MARGUERITE MARYLAND DORÉ, daughter of Ed-

226 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

ward Francis and Marie Jeanne (Pecot) Doré, was born on the Adeline Plantation, Jeanerette, Louisiana. Her first marriage was to Jowell J. Langdon who died in April 1938. They had the following issue:

aaa. Sally Ann Langdon

Marguerite Maryland Doré married, second, W. Morrow Cummings in New Orleans, Louisiana, on 20 January 1939. They live at 2131 Troon Road, Houston, Texas, where Mr. Cummings is in the insurance business. The following children were born of this union:

bbb. Marilyn Cummings

ccc. W. Morrow Cummings, Jr.

aaa. SALLY ANN LANGDON married André C. Farish of Houston, Texas. They reside on Achilles Plantation, Frogmore, Louisiana, near Natchez, Mississippi, and have the following children:

André C. Farish, Jr. Jefferson David Farish

Melissa Farish

bbb. MARYLIN CUMMINGS married Arthur Carson Rubey and they reside in Houston, Texas.

ee. CATHERINE CARMEN DORÉ, daughter of Edward Francis and Marie Jeanne (Pecot) Doré, was born at Camperdown, Louisiana. She is married to William E. Cagle, sales representative. They reside at 1006 Willard Street, Houston 6, Texas.

ff. JOHN LIND DORÉ, son of Edward Francis and Marie Jeanne (Pecot) Doré, was born at Camperdown, Louisiana. He married Exna Ruth Throgmorton in Houston, Texas, on 1 October 1938. He attended Rice University and is now the president of John L. Doré Company, Teflon Plastics, Houston, Texas. The family lives at 5613 Cedar Creek Drive, Houston 27, Texas. There are the following two daughters in the family:

Lind Doré

Michele Doré

e. EMILE NAPOLEON DORÉ, son of Helaire and Mary Elizabeth (Wilkes) Doré, was born at Bay Saint Louis, Mississippi. After his mother's death in a yellow fever epidemic, he went to Martin, Tennessee to live with his uncle, John Ira Wilkes. His brothers, John Randolph Tillman and Edward Francis, and his sister, Marie Rosalie, also lived with John Ira Wilkes. They lived near a creek and once when sent to the creek for a bucket of water Emile fell in and was saved by Edward Francis, after that these two brothers felt especially close to each other. Emile finished high school in Martin, Tennessee and later attended the University of Tennessee. He was a sugar planter and lived on Aragon Plantation,

ABNER WILKES

227

Montegut, Louisiana.

Emile Napoleon Doré married Marguerite Josephine Le Blanc, daughter of Leonce and Berthilde (Cantrelle) Le Blanc of Terre-bone Parish, Louisiana. They had the following issue:

aa. Florence Doré

bb. Ruhl Doré

cc. Donald Edward Doré

dd. Francis Roy Doré

ee. Collis Emile Doré

ff. Berthilde Doré

gg. Merrill Brennan Doré

hh. Emile Napoleon Doré, Jr.

aa. FLORENCE DORÉ was born in the year 1901. She married Warren Roussel and they live at La Place, Louisiana, where they operate a well-known restaurant. Their daughter, Elmira Roussel, married Joseph Hatchett of La Place.

bb. RUHL DORÉ was born in the year 1903. He resides in New Orleans, Louisiana, and is engaged in the securities business. He married Mary Mahoney and they have a daughter, Dianne Doré, who is attending Louisiana State University.

cc. DONALD EDWARD DORÉ was born in 1905. He is an attorney and lives at 127 East Street, Lake Charles, Louisiana. He married Lena Mai Miller of Oakdale, Louisiana, and they have the following issue:

aaa. Donald Edward Doré, Jr., pathologist in the U. S. Navy stationed at Charleston, South Carolina.

bbb. Lemuel Marguerite Doré, married Jerry Doland. They reside in Lake Arthur, Louisiana, and have three children: Mike, Pete, and Laura Ellen.

dd. FRANCIS ROY DORÉ married, first, Merle Richardson and they had a daughter, Ellen Doré, who is a graduate in social work and is employed by the state of Louisiana. He married, second, Ruby Hollis.

ee. COLLIS EMILE DORÉ married Marjorie Wickenclen. They reside in New Orleans, Louisiana, where Mr. Doré is in the securities business. They have the following children:

Carol Doré

Dickey Doré

ff. BERTHILDE DORÉ married Eddie Turner. They reside in Texas City, Texas, where Mr. Turner is connected with a petroleum refinery. They have a son:

Thomas Turner

gg. MERRILL BRENNAN DORÉ married Wanda Lee. They reside in Durango, Colorado and have a daughter:

Merrilyn Doré

hh. EMILE NAPOLEON DORÉ, JR. was born in the year

228 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

1922. He resides in Texas City, Texas. He and his sister and brothers were christened in the Catholic Church in Montegut, Louisiana.

2. JOHN IRA WILKES

JOHN IRA WILKES, son of John B. and Oney Rebecca (Pritchard) Wilkes, was born in Copiah County, Mississippi, on 4 December 1846. He died in Memphis, Tennessee, on 15 February 1915, and was buried in Martin, Tennessee. After the death of his parents, he lived with his uncle and aunt, Elijah and Elizabeth (Wilkes) Crider in Copiah County. He was a captain in Forrest's Cavalry during the Civil War. After the war, he worked in the store of Lem McMillan, brother of the girl he later married. Later he moved to Martin, Tennessee, where he was the railroad agent for many years.

John Ira Wilkes married Florence A. McMillan, daughter of John A. McMillan who owned at one time several sections of land in Washington Parish, Louisiana. The marriage was in Copiah County, Mississippi, on 9 November 1870⁸⁰. They had the following issue:

Vivian Wilkes

VIVIAN WILKES, daughter of John Ira and Florence A. (McMillan) Wilkes, was a talented artist and musician. She studied in Europe. She married R. Ronald Rogers, owner of Rogers' Tonic Company, Memphis, Tennessee. They lived in Memphis and had the following issue:

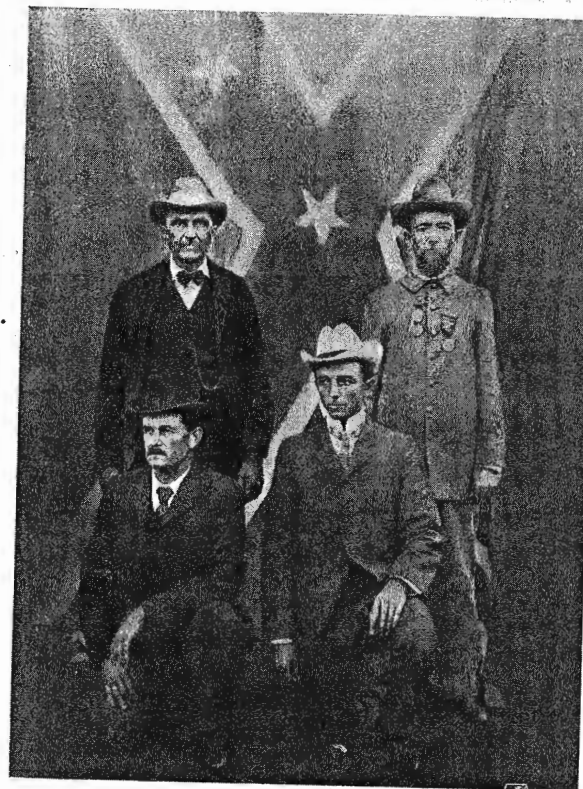
George Wilkes Rogers

Vivian Rogers

3. SAMUEL WARREN WILKES

SAMUEL WARREN WILKES, son of John B. and Oney Rebecca (Pritchard) Wilkes, was born near Homer, Louisiana, on 15 May 1849. He died on 8 July 1918 and was buried in the cemetery at Angie, Louisiana. "Sam" Wilkes was one of the early boatmen of Pearl River. He built in 1896 and owned, with Hubert and Hilton Bailey, the "Carrie B." He made many trips between New Orleans, Louisiana, and Columbia, Mississippi, and on occasion of very high water the boat would go as far up the river as Monticello and old Westville. The main cargo was cotton to New Orleans (one cargo consisted of 535 bales at \$1.00 per bale) and general merchandise out of New Orleans to the towns along the river. The competition of the railroads eventually put the river boats out of service. Also the boats were unable to keep a regular schedule, as they could not navigate the Pearl except when it was "up" from heavy rains and

80. Book I, page 63, Copiah County Marriage Records



Kneeling, l. to r.: William H. Wilkes and Emile Napoleon Doré. Standing, l. to r.: Samuel W. Wilkes and James Ira Wilkes.

ABNER WILKES

229

therefore their service was unreliable. After his steamboat days, Mr. Wilkes was a cotton planter and operated a cotton gin. He lost an arm in a cotton gin accident. He was known for his kindness to orphans and was a man of deep affection for his children and grandchildren. Until the number completely outgrew even improvised beds, every child and grandchild had to spend Christmas Eve under his roof. During the last illness of his parents and following their death, he lived with Liberty and Rebecca Warren, near Columbia, Mississippi. Mr. Warren was a half-brother of Samuel Warren Wilkes' mother.

Samuel Warren Wilkes and Vandellia Dorcas McMillan were married on 2 February 1870 at the home of Mr. F. M. Forbes at Angie, Louisiana, the marriage ceremony being performed by the Reverend Joseph Pounds, a Baptist minister. Vandellia was born 27 January 1849, the daughter of Adolphus H. McMillan (born 4 July 1819—died 23 Jan. 1890) and Angelina Bateman (born 25 Dec. 1825—died 27 July 1909). After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Wilkes lived for a while in Angie and in 1875 moved to Saint Francisville, Louisiana and lived on Fairview plantation for several years before moving back to Angie. They had the following children:

- a. Oney Angelina Wilkes, b. 5 Feb. 1871; d. 15 Feb. 1907
- b. John Monroe Wilkes, b. 29 May 1872; d. 26 Oct. 1879
- c. Louvenia Wilkes, born 31 Dec. 1873
- d. Samuel Warren Wilkes, Jr., born 30 March 1875
- e. Gabriella Wilkes, born 24 Nov. 1876
- f. Mary Eugenia Wilkes, b. 27 Dec. 1878; d. 18 July 1881
- g. Myra Hazel Wilkes, born 30 Oct. 1882
- h. Lucion Wilkes, born 23 June 1884
- i. Infant born 19 Feb. 1886; died at birth
- j. Viola Vandellia Wilkes, born 27 June 1887
- k. Infant born 21 Nov. 1889; died at birth
- l. Holly Alonzo Wilkes, born 30 June 1891

a. ONEY ANGELINA WILKES, daughter of Samuel Warren and Vandellia Dorcas (McMillan) Wilkes, was born near Angie, Louisiana. She married Claudius B. Bankston and they resided at Mt. Herman, Louisiana, where Mr. Bankston engaged in farming and carpentry. Oney died on 5 November 1951 and her husband died on 25 August 1943, both were buried in the garden of their home at Mt. Herman. Her monument has the following inscription: "She went about doing good". They belonged to the Methodist

230 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

Church. They had an adopted daughter:

aa. Ruth Ard Wilkes

aa. RUTH ARD WILKES married Guy Smith. They reside at St. Francisville, Louisiana, and have a daughter:

Guy Ruth Smith

d. SAMUEL WARREN WILKES, JR. was born in Angie, Louisiana. He and his brothers were taught by a private tutor at St. Francisville, Louisiana. In addition to regular lessons, they were taught music, dancing and French. He attended Louisiana State University in 1895-96. He was a planter and contractor and lived at Mt. Herman, Louisiana. His chief interests were improving education and better methods of farming. He was instrumental in getting agricultural experts to come to his community and put on demonstrations to show his neighbors improved methods in farming. He rode horseback from house to house in his community to convince people of the importance of voting a tax to build the first high school at Mt. Herman. At his own expense he maintained roads connecting his neighborhood with the church and school prior to parish taxes being voted. He was one of the first directors of Washington Parish Fair and remained active in it throughout his life-time. He died on 31 March 1950 after a long illness and was buried at Mt. Pisgah Cemetery.

Samuel Warren Wilkes, Jr. married Minnie Astelle Kemp, daughter of Isaac and Samantha Ann (Davis) Kemp, on 26 January 1900. Minnie was born 4 November 1881 and died on 23 January 1946. She attended public schools in Washington Parish, Louisiana, and Teacher's Seminary, where she studied music and received a teacher's certificate. She was active in community and church work and organized canning and sewing clubs of her community. She was a member of Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church, built in 1830, and served as organist there for many years. The following children were born to this family:

aa. Taunton Honoré Wilkes

bb. Royce Durward Wilkes, b. 7 Jan. 1904; d. 15 Feb. 1905

cc. Durward Ogden Wilkes

dd. Geraldine Wilkes

aa. TAUNTON HONORÉ WILKES, daughter of Samuel Warren Wilkes, Jr. and Minnie Astelle Kemp was born at Sunny Hill, Louisiana, on 6 February 1901. She graduated from Mt. Herman High School, Southwestern University, and Louisiana State University and did graduate work at the University of Southern California, majoring in social science. She taught school before her

ABNER WILKES

231

marriage. She is now serving as manager of Ouachita Parish Red Cross Chapter, Monroe, Louisiana. She is active in civic organizations and is director of the crippled children and cancer boards of the Young Women's Christian Association. She is a charter member, past president and district officer of Quota Club International. She assisted in organizing the Twin-City Symphony Orchestra, serving on the board of directors and as an officer. She is a member of Fine Arts Club, and received Jaycee award in 1953 for being an outstanding citizen. Taunton is a member of the First Methodist Church of Monroe, Louisiana. She is active in State Conference of Social Welfare and was appointed to Louisiana State Advisory Board on Aging in 1952.

Taunton Honoré Wilkes married W. D. Anders on 1 August 1924. He died on 2 February 1927. They had no children. She married, second, William James Veazey at Shreveport, Louisiana, on 11 May 1934. He is a son of Henri and E. T. Veazey and was born in Senatobia, Mississippi, on 18 February 1895. He graduated from Senatobia High School and Mississippi State University, class of 1917. He is a veteran of World War I, with service aboard the USS *New York*. He was resident engineer for Fairbanks Morse Machinery Company for years prior to retirement in 1960, since which time he has been a private engineering consultant. He is a member of Kiwanis Club, Bayou DeSiard Country Club and active in the First Methodist Church, serving his third term on the Board of Stewards. Mr. and Mrs. Veazey reside at 1425 Forsythe Avenue, Monroe, Louisiana. They have no children.

cc. DURWARD OGDEN WILKES, son of Samuel Warren Wilkes, Jr. and Minnie Astelle Kemp, was born at Sunny Hill, Louisiana, on 28 May 1907. He was educated in the schools of Washington Parish, Louisiana, graduating at Mt. Herman High School, where he was active in sports. He went on to Louisiana State University, where he graduated in chemical engineering. He is a member of Alpha Sigma Chi fraternity. He is a veteran of World War II, serving with the Petroleum Development Administration. He was Manufacturing Director of Creole Petroleum Corporation, Caracas, Venezuela, where he resided, until 1962. In February 1962, Mr. Wilkes was made General Manager of Amoniac Espanol, S. A. and will soon take up residence in Madrid, Spain to supervise the development of this project.

Durward Ogden Wilkes married Lila Goodson of Oakdale, Louisiana, on 11 June 1933. She received her B. S. degree from Louisiana State University in 1932. They have the following chil-

Pascagoula Public Library
Genealogy & Local History Dept.
Wilkes Family

232 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

dren:

aaa. William Warren Wilkes, born in New Orleans, Louisiana, on 19 March 1941. He graduated from New Mexico Military Academy in 1959. He is now an engineering student at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, where he is on the varsity lacrosse and football teams.

bbb. Mary Virginia Wilkes, born in New Orleans, Louisiana, on 14 October 1942. She attended Anderson School of New York. She is married to Sergeant Edward S. Weaver of the U. S. Marines and they reside at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, where Sgt. Weaver is on duty.

dd. GERALDINE WILKES, daughter of Samuel Warren Wilkes, Jr. and Minnie Astelle Kemp, was born at Sunny Hill, Louisiana, on 10 December 1918. She is a graduate of Franklinton High School, Northeast State College, and class of 1939 Louisiana State University. She is active in Baton Rouge Symphony Auxiliary, Music Club, Young Women's Christian Association, Reviewers Club and Philistoria, and has served as president of Episcopal Diocesan.

Geraldine Wilkes married Robert Burwell Tucker on 11 May 1940 at the First Baptist Church in Baton Rouge. He was born on 24 August 1913, a son of Dr. James Arthur and Virginia (Wilkinson) Tucker. He graduated from high school in Baton Rouge and went on to Louisiana State University, where he graduated in 1937. He is a veteran of World War II, serving with the U. S. Army Engineers, attached to the Air Corps, from 17 October 1941 to 12 May 1946, when he was honorably discharged as a captain. He served at Ordnance Works, Chattanooga, Tennessee, Tyndall Field, Florida, Jacksonville, Florida, Jackson, Mississippi, and Calcutta, India. At the present time, Mr. Tucker is Assistant Department Head, Mechanical Division of Esso Refinery, Humble Oil and Refinery Company. He recently addressed the mechanical superintendents of the European affiliates in Stuttgart, Germany. He is a member of the Baton Rouge Airport Commission and active in community life. He is a member of the Baton Rouge Assembly and is serving his third term as a member of the vestry of St. James Episcopal Church. They reside at 1165 North Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. They have the following children:

aaa. Thomas Warren Tucker bbb. Anne Virginia Tucker

aaa. THOMAS WARREN TUCKER was born at Tyndall Field, Florida, on 12 June 1943. He graduated from Baton Rouge High School in 1961 and is now attending the Medical College of Tulane University. He is a member of Kappa Sigma fraternity; vice-

ABNER WILKES

233

president of his class; and member of Honor Board and Intra-Mural Sports Representative for Arts and Science College.

bbb. ANNE VIRGINIA TUCKER was born at Baton Rouge, Louisiana, on 18 October 1945. She is a junior at Baton Rouge High School and is secretary for Louisiana Society of Children of American Revolution, she is also an officer of Young People's Service League. She and her brother are recipients of outstanding performance certificates from Science Research Associates for being in the top 7% of their respective classes in the nation.

e. GABRIELLA WILKES, daughter of Samuel Warren and Vandellia Dorcas (McMillan) Wilkes, was born in Saint Francisville, Louisiana, on 24 November 1876 and died at Angie, Louisiana, on 6 March 1946, burial was at Angie. Gabriella was educated by private tutor at St. Francisville. She married Absolom Washington Robbins on 30 December 1894 at the home of her parents in Angie, Louisiana. Mr. Robbins was born 4 March 1861 and died at Angie, Louisiana, in 1945. He was a farmer and was mayor of Angie for eight years. Both were active members of the First Baptist Church at Angie. They had the following children:

- aa. Absolom Carl Robbins, born 17 Nov. 1895
- bb. Eddie Frank Robbins, born 11 March 1897
- cc. Samuel Warren Robbins, born 3 March 1899
- dd. Homer Benton Robbins, born 6 March 1901
- ee. Robert Roscoe Robbins, born 1 April 1903
- ff. Eustace Earl Robbins, b. 13 Sept. 1904; d. 6 Aug. 1905
- gg. William Henry Robbins, born 23 Jan. 1906
- hh. Gladys Vandellia Robbins, born 7 Aug. 1907
- ii. Winnie Lou Robbins, born 24 June 1909
- jj. Sarah Jessie Robbins, born 13 May 1912
- kk. Albert Wayne Robbins, born 1 Feb. 1914

aa. ABSOLOM CARL ROBBINS, son of Absolom Washington and Gabriella (Wilkes) Robbins, was born at Mt. Point, Louisiana. He attended school at Sunny Hill, Louisiana. He was a veteran of World War I, with service in the U. S. Army as a corporal. He was a member of the First Methodist Church and was a barber. He died at Angie, Louisiana on 27 June 1953 and was buried at Angie. He married Annie May Vickery in Monroe, Louisiana, on 5 February 1922. She was born at Natchez, Mississippi, on 31 December 1898. The following child was born of this union:

Margaret Lee Robbins

MARGARET LEE ROBBINS was born in Monroe, Louisiana, on 4 March 1923. She married Robert Sanford (born 15 October

234 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

1921 at Maplewood, N. J.) at Monroe, Louisiana, on 5 November 1943. She attended Ouachita High School and Louisiana State University. Her husband is a colonel in the United States Air Force and is presently stationed at Scott Air Force Base, Illinois and his address is 112 Pryor Street. Since marriage, he has had assignments in the Aleutian Islands, Germany, Italy, and Switzerland. They have the following issue:

Susan Louise Sanford, born 13 April 1945

Absolom Carl Robbins married, second, Mrs. Olga McNeese.

bb. EDDIE FRANK ROBBINS, son of Absolom Washington and Gabriella (Wilkes) Robbins, was born at Mount Point, Louisiana. He attended school at Mt. Point and Sunny Hill, Louisiana. He is a barber and State Inspector for Association of Barbers. He married Margaret Hand at Colfax, Louisiana on 16 May 1945. They reside at 2414 Iberia Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. They have no children.

cc. SAMUEL WARREN ROBBINS, son of Absolom Washington and Gabriella (Wilkes) Robbins, was born at Mt. Point, Louisiana, on 3 March 1899 and died at Monroe, Louisiana, on 19 October 1946. He attended school at Mt. Point and Sunny Hill, Louisiana. While living he had an automobile agency. He was a member of the First Baptist Church, Monroe, Louisiana. He married Jency Shields at Monroe on 2 May 1924.

dd. HOMER BENTON ROBBINS, son of Absolom Washington and Gabriella (Wilkes) Robbins, was born at Mt. Point, Louisiana. He attended school at Mt. Point and high school at Angie, Louisiana. He married Hazel Glover on 30 September 1934 and they have a daughter:

Judith Gabriella Robbins, born 8 Feb. 1947

ee. ROBERT ROSCOE ROBBINS, son of Absolom Washington and Gabriella (Wilkes) Robbins, was born at Mt. Point, Louisiana. He attended school at Mt. Point and Sunny Hill, Louisiana. He is an inspector for the Southern Pacific Railroad. He married Lucy Lee Alford at New Orleans, Louisiana, on 28 April 1934. Lucy Lee was born in Angie, Louisiana, on 27 April 1911. She is a graduate of Louisiana Technical Institute and Louisiana State University.

gg. WILLIAM HENRY ROBBINS, son of Absolom Washington and Gabriella (Wilkes) Robbins, was born at Mount Point, Louisiana and attended school there. He attended Louisiana State University 1926-27, Louisiana Polytechnic Institute 1928. He returned to Louisiana State University and obtained his B. A. degree there in 1940. He obtained his M. S. degree at Mississippi Southern

ABNER WILKES

235

College. He is the Principal of Angie High School, Angie, Louisiana, and is a member of the Baptist church. He married Velma Magee in October 1938 and they have the following children:

William Henry Robbins, Jr., born 10 Feb. 1942

Catherine Diane Robbins, born 5 Nov. 1946

hh. GLADYS VANDELLIA ROBBINS, daughter of Absolom Washington and Gabriella (Wilkes) Robbins, was born at Mount Point, Louisiana. She finished high school at Angie, Louisiana, and graduated at Louisiana Polytechnic Institute in 1929. She married Thomas Murray Sones at Tylertown, Mississippi. They reside at Angie, Louisiana, where Mr. Sones is a merchant. They are active members of the First Baptist Church and have the following children:

Patty Ann Sones, born 10 July 1937

Tommie Ruth Sones, born 4 April 1944

ii. WINNIE LOU ROBBINS, daughter of Absolom Washington and Gabriella (Wilkes) Robbins, was born at Mt. Point, Louisiana. She finished high school at Angie, Louisiana in 1927 and then went to Louisiana Polytechnic Institute 1928-29. She received her B. A. degree from Southeastern College, Hammond, Louisiana. She married Joel Henry Eubanks at Angie, Louisiana, on 25 December 1938. She is a member of the Baptist church and is a teacher in the public schools of Bogalusa, Louisiana. They reside at 324 Richmond Street, Bogalusa and have the following children:

Linda Lou Eubanks, born 21 Sept. 1943

Joel Ervin Eubanks, born 2 Nov. 1944

jj. SARAH JESSIE ROBBINS, daughter of Absolom Washington and Gabriella (Wilkes) Robbins, was born at Angie, Louisiana. She finished high school at Angie in 1931 and graduated from the nursing school of Bogalusa, Louisiana, Hospital in 1937. She is a registered nurse in the Bogalusa Hospital. She married Earl Ford on 24 January 1937. They are members of the First Baptist Church of Bogalusa. The following children have been born to them:

Robert Samuel Ford, born 26 March 1942

John Warren Ford, born 27 Jan. 1949

kk. ALBERT WAYNE ROBBINS, son of Absolom Washington and Gabriella (Wilkes) Robbins, was born at Angie, Louisiana. He finished high school in Angie in 1930 and then attended Louisiana College, Pineville, Louisiana, where he received his B. A. degree in 1934. He attended Southern Baptist Seminary, Louisville, Kentucky, and received his T.H.M. degree in 1941. He is a veteran of World War II with service as a chaplain in the U. S. Army from

236 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

1942 to 23 January 1946 with the rank of captain. He saw front line service in the Philippines and received a Bronze Star for meritorious service in combat while in the 33d Division. He now serves as chaplain of the Louisiana National Guard, assigned to headquarters 105 AAA Battalion, Bogalusa, Louisiana. He is presently pastor of the First Baptist Church in Franklinton, Louisiana, where his family resides. He married Irma Magee, daughter of William and Evie (Green) Magee, of Enon, Louisiana, and they have the following children:

- Albert Wayne Robbins, Jr., born 30 Aug. 1951
- Dennis Wiley Robbins, born 4 Oct. 1953
- Kent Travis Robbins, born 15 June 1957

g. MYRA HAZEL WILKES, daughter of Samuel Warren and Vandellia Dorcas (McMillan) Wilkes, was born on Fairview Plantation, St. Francisville, Louisiana. She was educated by private tutor and private schools in St. Francisville. She married Angus Carl Bankston at Varnado, Louisiana, on 22 January 1899, the marriage ceremony was by the Reverend F. N. K. Adams. Angus Carl was born at Mt. Herman, Louisiana, on 11 September 1874 and died on 4 January 1951. He was a cabinet maker. Myra died on 2 August 1959 and both she and her husband were buried at Franklinton, Louisiana. They had the following children:

- aa. Clayton Victor Bankston, born 28 Jan. 1900
- bb. Hubert Stanley Bankston, born 1 Feb. 1903
- cc. Cora Joyce Bankston, b. 27 Aug. 1907; d. 23 Nov. 1956
- dd. Claudia Belle Bankston, born 2 May 1911
- ee. Warren Kermit Bankston, born 19 May 1913

aa. CLAYTON VICTOR BANKSTON, son of Angus Carl and Myra Hazel (Wilkes) Bankston, was born at Mt. Herman, Louisiana. He finished high school at Pineville, Louisiana and later attended Louisiana College. He is a Baptist and resides at 57 Beverly Garden, Metairie, Louisiana, where he is a partner in Air Condition Engineering, Inc., New Orleans, Louisiana. He married Mary Ella Moore in New Orleans on 22 June 1935. She was a daughter of Capt. and Mrs. Charles E. Moore of New Orleans. They have the following issue:

Clayton Victor Bankston, Jr., born 26 Oct. 1947

bb. HUBERT STANLEY BANKSTON, son of Angus Carl and Myra Hazel (Wilkes) Bankston, was born at Mt. Herman, Louisiana. He finished high school at Sunny Hill, Louisiana, and graduated at Louisiana State University in 1928. He is a member of the First Baptist Church, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and is a Mason with

ABNER WILKES

237

a 25 year certificate awarded in November 1960. He is a consultant for elementary and secondary education for Louisiana State Department of Public Education. He married Mattie Ada Carroll on 5 August 1928. She was born on 6 September 1903 at Orange, Texas, the daughter of Sylvania Jefferson and Della (Hornbeck) Carroll. Her family has made considerable donations to Baylor University, Carroll Field being named for the family. She is active in church work, garden clubs, and Louisiana Supervisor's of Education Auxiliary. They reside at 117 Beverly Drive, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and have the following issue:

Jerry Hubert Bankston

JERRY HUBERT BANKSTON was born at Columbia, Louisiana, on 8 December 1931. He finished high school in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and obtained his B. A. degree from Louisiana State University. He is a Baptist and a lawyer. He married Bobby Nell Roberts at Baton Rouge on 8 April 1960. She is the daughter of Frank and Aline (Miller) Roberts and was born at Mt. Herman, Louisiana, on 18 November 1936. They reside at 5850 Burgandy Avenue, Baton Rouge and have the following child:

Steven Christopher Bankston, born 25 July 1961

dd. CLAUDIA BELLE BANKSTON, daughter of Angus Carl and Myra Hazel (Wilkes) Bankston, was born at Mt. Herman, Louisiana. She finished high school at Bogalusa, Louisiana, and graduated from the Mather School of Nursing at Southern Baptist Hospital, New Orleans, Louisiana. She married George McCrea Connell in West Feliciana Parish, Louisiana, on 16 October 1937. Mr. Connell owned and operated the Connell plantation and stock farm, Jackson, Louisiana. He was born on the Connell plantation on 17 January 1911 and was well known as a big game hunter and lover of the outdoors. He died in January 1962 and was buried at Jackson, Louisiana. The following children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Connell:

- aaa. Robert Angus Connell, born 17 July 1941
- bbb. Mary Joyce Connell, born 23 July 1944

Mary Joyce Connell, daughter of Mrs. George M. Connell and the late Mr. Connell, is a student at Louisiana State University. She made her debut in 1962 in Belles de Noel in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

ee. WARREN KERMIT BANKSTON, son of Angus Carl and Myra Hazel (Wilkes) Bankston, was born at Pine, Louisiana. He finished high school at Bogalusa, Louisiana, and then graduated at the Louisiana State Mechanical Engineering school. He is a veteran of World War II, with service in the Engineer Corps of the U. S.

238 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

Army from June 1942 to February 1946. His war service was in the European Theater, and he was with General Patton in the Third Army. At the present time, he is a mechanical engineer with the New Orleans Public Service Corporation and resides at 5958 Argonne Street, New Orleans, Louisiana. He married Mary Louise Coe at New Orleans, Louisiana, on 24 January 1942. She is the daughter of Paul E. and Bertha (Muh) Coe, and was born in Jackson, Mississippi, on 22 April 1921. The following children were born of this marriage:

Elizabeth Louisa Bankston, born 15 Nov. 1943
Gary Kermit Bankston, born 8 May 1948
Peggy Alice Bankston, born 8 Oct. 1949

h. LUCION WILKES, son of Samuel Warren and Vandellia Dorcas (McMillan) Wilkes, was born at St. Francisville, Louisiana, where he was educated by private tutor and in the public schools. He was a farmer and lived in the Pisgah community, where he was a member of the Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church. He died at Mt. Herman, Louisiana, on 10 August 1952 and was buried in the Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church Cemetery. He married Vanda Morris, daughter of James and Elizabeth Morris, on 13 January 1907 at Mt. Herman. She was born at Mt. Herman on 7 August 1890. The following children were born of this union:

aa. Iris Oney Wilkes, born 7 Dec. 1907
bb. Lennie Louvenia Wilkes, born 19 Feb. 1910
cc. Earl Samuel Wilkes, born 5 Feb. 1912
dd. Connie Mae Wilkes, born 19 Aug. 1914
ee. Harris Doyle Wilkes, born 3 Aug. 1916
ff. Althea Evelyn Wilkes, born 6 July 1918
gg. Sedgie Wilson Wilkes, born 30 March 1920
hh. Elaine Delle Wilkes, born 5 Feb. 1922
ii. Lucion Willard Wilkes, born 5 Dec. 1924

aa. IRIS ONEY WILKES, daughter of Lucion and Vanda (Morris) Wilkes, was born at Mt. Herman, Louisiana. She finished high school at Sunny Hill, Louisiana and is a member of the First Baptist Church, Bogalusa, Louisiana. She married Howard O. Reeves at Bogalusa on 17 March 1928. Mr. Reeves was born at Tylertown, Mississippi, on 7 October 1903 and died at Bogalusa, where he operated the Reeves Laundry, on 22 September 1952. Mrs. Reeves resides at 434 Superior Avenue, Bogalusa, Louisiana. The following were born of this marriage:

aaa. Howard O. Reeves, Jr., born 3 March 1929
bbb. Alra Edmond Reeves, born 19 Oct. 1931

ABNER WILKES

239

aaa. HOWARD O. REEVES, JR. was born at Bogalusa, Louisiana. He finished high school at Bogalusa and then went on to graduate at Louisiana Technical Institute and Louisiana State University. He is a member of the Baptist Church and belongs to the Lions Club and the American Society of Mechanical Engineers. He served as Airman first class in the U. S. Air Force during the Korean conflict and worked with Atomic Energy Commission during the time spent in military service. At the present time, he is a mechanical engineer with Crossett Paper Company and lives at Crossett, Arkansas. He married Gloria Gay Dyson, daughter of Alvin and Alice Dyson, at Cameron, Louisiana, on 9 February 1951. She was born at Cameron on 14 June 1930. They have the following children:

Maybris Ellen Reeves, b. 21 Apr. 1954; d. 12 Dec. 1955
Mary Lynn Reeves, born 11 June 1956
Rebecca Ann Reeves, born 30 Apr. 1960

bbb. ALRA EDMOND REEVES was born at Picayune, Mississippi. He finished high school at Bogalusa, Louisiana and went on to graduate at Louisiana College and Louisiana State University. He is a deacon in Valwood Baptist Church, Dallas, Texas. He served four years as airman first class in the U. S. Air Force during the Korean Conflict, two years of which was in Okinawa with radar and two years at Keesler Field, Biloxi, Mississippi, as an instructor in electronics. He married Katherine Sue Carter, daughter of Thomas and Kate Carter, at Tallulah, Louisiana, on 28 April 1951. She was born at Birmingham, Alabama, on 5 February 1930. They have the following children:

Alra Edmond Reeves, Jr., born 24 March 1954
Thomas Oleson Reeves, born 21 Nov. 1957
Jeffry Howard Reeves, born 6 Jan. 1961

bb. LENNIE LOUVENIA WILKES, daughter of Lucion and Vanda (Morris) Wilkes, was born at Silver Springs, Mississippi. She married Molan Dykes at Tylertown, Mississippi, on 9 October 1926. They have the following children:

Molan Dykes, Jr., born 23 Sept. 1927
Joan Dykes, born 12 Feb. 1929
Larry Wilkes Dykes, born 2 Dec. 1930
Lynn Everett Dykes, born 18 May 1932
Lucion Randolph Dykes, born 19 Aug. 1934
Doyle Drennan Dykes, born 8 Oct. 1936

cc. EARL SAMUEL WILKES, son of Lucion and Vanda (Morris) Wilkes, was born at Mt. Herman, Louisiana. He attended

Pascagoula Public Library
Genealogy & Local History Dept.
Wilkes Family

240 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

Mt. Herman High School and is a member of Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church. He married Willie Marie Burch at Mt. Herman on 4 October 1934 and they had the following children:

- aaa. Bobbie Earl Wilkes
- bbb. Gwendora Wilkes
- ccc. Dorothy Elaine Wilkes
- ddd. Fay Ellen Wilkes, b. 4 April 1944
- eee. Janice Marie Wilkes, b. 29 Sept. 1946
- fff. Katherine Wilkes, b. 25 Sept. 1951
- ggg. Samuel Earl Wilkes, Jr., b. 27 Jan. 1953

aaa. BOBBIE EARL WILKES, was born on 15 January 1935 at Mt. Herman, Louisiana. She married Quinlon McElween in 1953. They reside in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and have the following children:

- Beverlyn Ann McElween, born 25 May 1955
- Cheryl Lynn McElween, born 23 Oct. 1957
- Kimerly McElween, born 8 Dec. 1959

bbb. GWENDORA WILKES, born at Mt. Herman, Louisiana, on 1 September 1936. She was married in 1952 to Dr. Derry David Magee. They live in Bryan, Texas, where Dr. Magee is a practicing physician. They have a daughter:

- Juanita Elaine Magee, born 3 May 1953

ccc. DOROTHY ELAINE WILKES, was born at Mt. Herman, Louisiana, on 5 May 1938. She married William Cleatus Cook in 1955. They live at Mt. Herman and have the following children:

- Pamela Elaine Cook, born 9 April 1956
- Tamela Cook, born 22 Sept. 1959
- William Bradford Cook, born 23 Feb. 1961

dd. CONNIE MAE WILKES, daughter of Lucion and Vanda (Morris) Wilkes, was born at Clifton, Louisiana. She married J. P. Alford at Tylertown, Mississippi. They live at Mt. Herman, Louisiana, and have the following issue:

- Mary Ella Alford, born 13 Dec. 1931
- Eleanor Glynn Alford, born 15 Sept. 1933
- Delores Eyvonne Alford, born 9 June 1935
- Patsy Ruth Alford, born 9 July 1938
- James Paul Alford, born 1 Feb. 1942

ee. HARRIS DOYLE WILKES, son of Lucion and Vanda (Morris) Wilkes, was born in Silver Springs, Mississippi. He finished high school at Mt. Herman, Louisiana. He is a veteran of World War II, with six years service in the U. S. Marine Corps. He now resides at 4592 Sherwood Drive, Baton Rouge, Louisiana,

ABNER WILKES

241

where he is employed by the Standard Oil Company in Baton Rouge. He married Maxine Passman at Mt. Herman, Louisiana, on 23 December 1944. They have the following children:

- Ronald Lane Wilkes, born 13 Nov. 1945
- Larry Wayne Wilkes, born 5 Sept. 1948
- Patricia Diane Wilkes, born 21 July 1953

ff. ALTHEA EVELYN WILKES, daughter of Lucion and Vanda (Morris) Wilkes, was born at Silver Springs, Mississippi. She finished high school at Mt. Herman, Louisiana, and is a member of Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church. She married Wilson F. Smith on 14 November 1936 and they reside on Rural Route #1, Franklinton, Louisiana. They have the following children:

- Linda Sue Smith, born 28 March 1939
- Sylvia Evelyn Smith, born 3 March 1941
- Wilson F. Smith, Jr., born 28 Dec. 1945

gg. SEDGIE WILSON WILKES, son of Lucion and Vanda (Morris) Wilkes, was born at Mt. Herman, Louisiana. He attended high school at Mt. Herman and is a member of Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church. He operates a dairy and truck farm. Sedgie Wilson married Vera Lee Breland at Rosedale, Louisiana, on 22 February 1940 and they have the following children:

- aaa. Margaret Ann Wilkes, born 10 June 1941
- bbb. Samuel Wilson Wilkes, born 4 March 1945
- ccc. Judith Lynn Wilkes, born 9 April 1947

aaa. MARGARET ANN WILKES married James Larry Miller on 31 August 1957. They reside at Mt. Herman, Louisiana and have the following children:

- Brenda Ann Miller, born 2 March 1960
- James Gregory Miller, born 12 May 1961

hh. ELAINE DELLE WILKES, daughter of Lucion and Vanda (Morris) Wilkes, was born at Silver Springs, Mississippi. She completed high school at Mt. Herman, Louisiana. She married Arthur Ray Mitchell at Poplarville, Mississippi, on 7 June 1941. They reside at 1211 Avenue I, Bogalusa, Louisiana. Mr. Mitchell is a veteran of World War II, with service in the European Theater as a first Sergeant. They have the following children:

- Sandra Gay Mitchell, born 25 Dec. 1943
- Arthur Ray Mitchell, Jr., deceased.

ii. LUCION WILLARD WILKES, son of Lucion and Vanda (Morris) Wilkes, was born at Silver Springs, Mississippi. He attended Mt. Herman, Louisiana, High School and then went to Louisiana State University. He is a Baptist and at present is an account-

Pascagoula Public Library
Genealogy & Local History Dept.
Wilkes Family

242 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

ant and business manager of Baton Rouge General Hospital. They reside at 1125 Tom's Drive, Baton Rouge. They have the following children:

- Willard Lucion Wilkes, born 14 Sept. 1949
- William Francis Wilkes, born 16 Sept. 1952
- Wendell Passman Wilkes, born 29 Aug. 1955
- Wren Lee Wilkes, born 2 Aug. 1956

j. VIOLA VANDELLIA WILKES, daughter of Samuel Warren and Vandellia Dorcas (McMillan) Wilkes, was born on Fairview Plantation, St. Francisville, Louisiana. Known as "Delle", she finished high school and obtained her college degree. She taught in the public school for two years before her marriage. She was president of Baptist W. M. U. and was a member of the First Baptist Church at Bogalusa for 38 years. She was a charter member of Delphian Literary Society and a member of the Order of the Eastern Star. She married Wilson Elisha Crain at Mt. Herman, Louisiana, on 19 August 1908. Mr. Crain was Juvenile Officer at Bogalusa, Louisiana, and was District Manager, American National Life Insurance Company. He was a deacon of the First Baptist Church of Bogalusa and superintendent of the Sunday School. He was a member of the Masons for 18 years. Viola Vandellia died on 10 July 1954 and her husband died on 16 April 1947, both were buried in Pone-mah Cemetery at Bogalusa. The following children were born of this union:

- aa. Bessie May Crain, born 1 May 1910, died in infancy.
- bb. Clifford Wilson Crain, born 3 Jan. 1913
- cc. Gloria Delle Crain, born 20 June 1924

bb. CLIFFORD WILSON CRAIN, son of Wilson Elisha and Viola Vandellia (Wilkes) Crain, was born at Pine, Louisiana. He finished high school at Bogalusa, Louisiana, and then went to Louisiana State University, where he received his degree in medicine. He is a member of the First Baptist Church of Bogalusa and is a practicing physician and owner of Crain's Clinic at Bogalusa. He is a veteran of World War II with service in the 38th Cyclone Infantry Division in 1942; surgeon in the 138th Field Artillery Battalion; served under Admiral Nimitz and General Douglas MacArthur; discharged in 1945 as a captain of the U. S. Army Medical Corps. After his discharge from the Army, Dr. Crain returned to his medical practice at Bogalusa, and resides at 400 Louisiana Avenue.

Dr. Crain married Theresa Mary Brocato, daughter of Nicholas Santo and Jennie (Tombrello) Brocato, at Bay St. Louis, Mississip-

ABNER WILKES

243

pi, on 6 June 1936. She was born at Tallulah, Louisiana, on 4 December 1914. The following children were born of this union:

- Joan Delle Crain, born 5 May 1937
- Clifford Wilson Crain, Jr., born 2 May 1942

cc. GLORIA DELLE CRAIN, daughter of Wilson Elisha and Viola Vandellia (Wilkes) Crain, was born at Bogalusa, Louisiana. She finished high school at Bogalusa and obtained her B. S. degree at Pineville College in 1946. She is active in church work and teaches a Sunday School class of Newcomb College girls. She is a teacher in the New Orleans city schools and active in music and symphony clubs. Gloria Delle married William Cy Bolton on 19 January 1947 at the First Baptist Church in Bogalusa. Mr. Bolton was born at Volth, Texas, on 20 December 1921. He is a graduate of Pineville College and has seen service in the U. S. Marine Corps as staff sergeant and in the National Guard as a first lieutenant. At present he is the director of public relations of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. The family resides at 4055 Lipsey, New Orleans, Louisiana, and contains the following children:

- Gloria Delle Bolton, born 12 Nov. 1947
- William Cy Bolton, Jr., born 23 May 1956

e. HOLLY ALONZO WILKES, was born at St. Francisville, Louisiana, where he finished high school. Later he engaged in farming at Angie, Louisiana. He died at Angie, Louisiana, on 22 November 1922 and was buried there. Holly Alonzo Wilkes and Addie Lacy Ball, daughter of James J. and Mattie Edith Ball, were married at Varnado, Louisiana, on 11 October 1914. They had the following issue:

- aa. Aline Dorothy Wilkes, born 16 Sept. 1915
- bb. Pauline Wilkes, born 16 Sept. 1915
- cc. Samuel Warren Wilkes, III, born 24 April 1919
- dd. James Monroe Wilkes, born 20 June 1921
- ee. Willie Doyle Wilkes, b. 1 Sept. 1917; d. 12 June 1918
- ff. Holly Alonzo Wilkes, Jr., born 25 June 1923

aa. ALINE DOROTHY WILKES, daughter of Holly Alonzo and Addie Lacy (Ball) Wilkes, was born at Angie, Louisiana. She finished high school at Mt. Herman, Louisiana. She married Wilson Smith at Mt. Herman on 4 May 1935 and they live near Mt. Herman, where Mr. Smith is farming. The following children were born of this union:

- aaa. Claude Eugene Smith, born 25 Feb. 1936
- bbb. Walter Wilkes Smith, born 21 May 1941
- ccc. Martha Ann Smith, born 18 Jan. 1943

Pascagoula Public Library
Genealogy & Local History Dept.
Wilkes Family

244 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

ddd. Infant died at birth 15 Aug. 1947

aaa. CLAUDE EUGENE SMITH was born at Mt. Herman, Louisiana. He finished high school at Mt. Herman and then attended Louisiana State University. He is presently with Patterson Brothers Construction Company of Mt. Herman, where he resides. He married Betty Lou Holliday at Mt. Herman, Louisiana, on 10 August 1956 and they have the following issue:

Sanda Marie Smith, born 12 Oct. 1958

Cheryl Lynn Smith, born 12 Jan. 1960

bb. PAULINE WILKES, daughter of Holly Alonzo and Addie Lacy (Ball) Wilkes, was born at Angie, Louisiana. She finished high school at Mt. Herman, Louisiana and married Theodore Edward Evans at Angie on 25 December 1938. They reside at 812 West Fifth Street, Bogalusa, Louisiana, and have the following children:

George Teddy Evans, born 5 April 1942, in U. S. Air Force

Sara Grace Evans, born 27 Sept. 1944

Edith Fay Evans, born 19 Aug. 1952

cc. SAMUEL WARREN WILKES, III, son of Holly Alonzo and Addie Lacy (Ball) Wilkes, was born at Angie, Louisiana, where he finished high school in 1936. He is a veteran of World War II, with service in the U. S. Army Air Corps from 1941 to 1952. He is now with U. S. Civil Service and resides at 4515 El Camino Avenue, Sacramento, California. He married Minnie M. Thom at Raton, New Mexico, in November 1946. She is the daughter of Otis Thom of Limon, Colorado. The following children have been born of this union:

Samuel Warren Wilkes, IV, born 6 Sept. 1947

Sandra Kay Wilkes, born 29 Sept. 1948

dd. JAMES MONROE WILKES, son of Holly Alonzo and Addie Lacy (Ball) Wilkes, was born at Angie, Louisiana. He is a graduate of Louisiana State University and Southeastern Louisiana College. He is a member of the Ruritan Club and is a minister of the Methodist Church. He has had service with the U. S. Marines. James Monroe Wilkes and Joyce M. Brannon were married at New Orleans, Louisiana, on 29 June 1942. Joyce is a daughter of O. P. Brannon and was born at Whitehall, Louisiana, on 12 August 1920. The family resides at Istrouma Methodist Camp, Greenville Springs, Louisiana, and there are the following children in the family:

Russell Bruce Wilkes, born 10 Sept. 1945

Margaret Lynn Wilkes, born 13 Feb. 1953

ABNER WILKES

245

ff. HOLLY ALONZO WILKES, JR., son of Holly Alonzo and Addie Lacy (Ball) Wilkes, was born at Angie, Louisiana. He finished high school at Angie and is a graduate of Oklahoma State University. He belongs to the Catholic church and is a member of the following fraternities: AIEE, IRE, Etta Kappa Nu, Phi Kappa Phi. He entered military service in 1940 and in 1945 received a battlefield promotion to lieutenant. At the present time, he is a major in the U. S. Air Force and is working on design development of the electric systems of manned interceptors. His present address is 23 Summer Street, Boston, Massachusetts, with Angie, Louisiana as permanent address. Holly Alonzo married Excelona J. Hutson at Lincoln, Nebraska, on 2 June 1945. She was born in Hebron, Nebraska, on 6 April 1925, a daughter of Harvey and Mary Hutson. The following children have been born to this family:

Timothy Allan Wilkes, born 26 March 1946

August Ducan Wilkes, born 20 June 1947

4. MARTHA JANE WILKES

MARTHA JANE WILKES, daughter of John B. and Oney Rebecca (Pritchard) Wilkes, was born near Homer, Louisiana, on 8 January 1852 and died at Bogalusa, Louisiana, on 20 June 1926. Known as "Mattie", she married Fielding Nemrod Kinchen Adams (b. 27 Sept. 1847; d. 6 Oct. 1916), son of Fielding and Sophronia Adams of Kentucky. They had the following issue:

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| a. Jules Adams | b. Cynthia Cornelia Adams |
| c. William Warren Adams | d. Mary Adams |
| e. Lucille Adams | f. Thomas Adams |
| g. Maude Adams | h. Jesse Adams |

a. JULES ADAMS, son of Fielding Nemrod Kinchen and Martha Jane (Wilkes) Adams, was born on 11 April 1872 and died on 5 October 1931. He married Ana Mary Thompson on 29 December 1898 and they had the following children:

- aa. Orius Adams, b. 10 Sept. 1899; d. 10 Nov. 1919
- bb. Ethel Mae Adams, born 7 April 1901
- cc. Clarence Adams, b. 23 Dec. 1903; d. 7 March 1949
- dd. Julius R. Adams, born 27 Feb. 1906; d. 27 July 1956
- ee. Wilfred Adams, born 12 May 1907
- ff. Josie Fae Adams, born 19 Aug. 1909
- gg. Dudley Paul Adams, born 19 April 1911

b. CYNTHIA CORNELIA ADAMS, daughter of Fielding Nemrod Kinchen and Martha Jane (Wilkes) Adams, was born on 16 April 1874 and died on 10 September 1960. She married Hugh

Pascagoula Public Library
Genealogy & Local History Dept.
Wilkes Family

246 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

Adolphus McMillan at Angie, Louisiana, where he was a farmer-merchant. Mr. McMillan was born 17 December 1861 and died on 5 October 1922. They had the following children:

- aa. Grover McMillan, b. 22 Oct. 1894; d. 28 Jan. 1895
- bb. Ovied Leonard McMillan, born 11 July 1897
- cc. Jewel Eugene McMillan, born 5 Feb. 1900
- dd. Lillian Lucille McMillan, born 9 Nov. 1904
- ee. May Ruth McMillan, born and died 12 Oct. 1909

Cynthia Cornelia Adams married, second, Allen Wayne Ard, son of John and Martha (Bateman) Ard. They were married in December 1923 and had no issue. Mr. Ard died on 31 July 1929.

bb. OVIED LEONARD McMILLAN, son of Hugh Adolphus and Cynthia Cornelia (Adams) McMillan, was born 11 July 1897. He married Eleanor Wroten Slade and they had the following children:

- aaa. Ovied Leonard McMillan, Jr., born 26 Nov. 1922
- bbb. Yvonne Huelene McMillan, born 11 Nov. 1924
- ccc. Charles Julian McMillan, born 8 May 1927

bbb. YVONNE HUELENE McMILLAN married Leonard Milford Bullock, II and they had the following children:
Leonard Milford Bullock, III, born 18 June 1942
Patricia Ann Bullock, born 5 Nov. 1945

ccc. CHARLES JULIAN McMILLAN married Sylvia McLean and they had the following children:
Charles Julian McMillan, Jr., born 6 Feb. 1953
Jennie Marie McMillan, born 10 Dec. 1955
Julia Ann McMillan, born 8 June 1957
Joy Therese McMillan, born 6 May 1959

c. WILLIAM WARREN ADAMS, son of Fielding Nemrod Kinchen and Martha Jane (Wilkes) Adams, was born in 1876 and died on 5 May 1940. He married Beatrice Estelle Pope and they had the following children:

- aa. Mary Ella Adams, born 27 Feb. 1908
- bb. Jasper Hull Adams, b. 31 Dec. 1909; d. 4 Jan. 1957
- cc. Joseph Lancaster Adams, born 5 April 1913
- dd. Rosa Lee Adams, b. 17 March 1915; d. October 1945
- ee. Mattie Jane Adams, born 3 Dec. 1917

aa. MARY ELLA ADAMS married Albert Cothern on 26 February 1924 and they had the following children:
aaa. Dorothy Cothern bbb. Jack Jacob Cothern
ccc. Bobby Jean Cothern ddd. Billy Ray Cothern

ABNER WILKES

247

aaa. DOROTHY COTHERN, born 14 June 1926. She married George Perkins and they had the following issue:
Dolores Perkins, born 29 May 1944
Diane Perkins, born 13 Dec. 1948

bbb. JACK JACOB COTHERN, born 23 July 1927, married Cecile Cox and they had the following children:
Jacquelyn Cothern Brian Keith Cothern Georgiana Cothern

ccc. BOBBY JEAN COTHERN was born 28 November 1928. She married Sol Auerbach and they had the following children:
Bernard Allen Auerbach, born 29 March 1948
Cynthia Susan Auerbach, born 30 Oct. 1951
Daniel Paul Auerbach, born 10 Feb. 1955

ddd. BILLY RAY COTHERN was born on 29 July 1933. He married Dorothy Adams and they had the following issue:
Billy Ray Cothern, Jr., born 27 Oct. 1956

cc. JOSEPH LANCASTER ADAMS, son of William Warren and Beatrice Estelle (Pope) Adams, married Mathilde Abrems on 30 January 1940 and they had the following issue:
Claudia Elizabeth Adams, born 4 Jan. 1944
Patricia Jo Adams, born 7 June 1945
Joseph Lancaster Adams, Jr., born 27 Aug. 1947
Martha Minerva Adams, born 1 May 1951

ee. MATTIE JANE ADAMS, daughter of William Warren and Beatrice Estelle (Pope) Adams, married Horace Bryan Mahon and they had the following issue:
Elizabeth Ann Mahon, born 9 July 1936
Horace Bryan Mahon, Jr., born 28 Nov. 1937
Guy Bruce Mahon, born January 1955
Terry O'Niel Mahon, born 1960

d. MARY ADAMS, daughter of Fielding Nemrod Kinchen Adams and Martha Jane (Wilkes) Adams, was born on 22 June 1879. She married Edward Mohar. They had the following children:
Willie Ettia Mohar, born 14 July 1901
James Marl Mohar, born 21 Aug. 1903
Norman Eugene Mohar, born 25 Sept. 1905
John Wesley Mohar, born 10 Sept. 1909
Thomas Edward Mohar, born 13 Oct. 1912
Lenwood Jerome Mohar, born 21 April 1918
Robert Donald Mohar, born 4 April 1922

e. LUCILLE ADAMS, daughter of Fielding Nemrod Kinchen Adams and Martha Jane (Wilkes) Adams, was born 23 January

Pascagoula Public Library
Genealogy & Local History Dept.
Wilkes Family

248 WILKES FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

1883. She married Ard Foil and they had the following issue:
Erby Kirk Foil, born 1 Nov. 1902
Virgie Foil

f. THOMAS ADAMS, son of Fielding Nemrod Kinchen Adams and Martha Jane (Wilkes) Adams, was born 10 April 1886. He died on 18 October 1946. Mr. Adams married Ettress Ball on 14 February 1907. Their children are:

Clyde Adams, born 4 Dec. 1908
Oneatha Adams, born 27 Sept. 1911
James Adams, born 24 Dec. 1913
Evelyn Adams, born 25 May 1915
Willie Joel Adams, born 12 Oct. 1919
Wayne Adams, born 4 Feb. 1923

g. MAUDE ADAMS, daughter of Fielding Nemrod Kinchen Adams and Martha Jane (Wilkes) Adams, was born on 3 February 1891. She married A. Morgan Bankston and they had the following children:

Claude Bankston, born 5 Oct. 1906
Emmett Bankston, born 1 April 1910
Felton A. Bankston, born 12 July 1912
Jesse C. Bankston, born 29 April 1918
Fannie Eudora Bankston, born 28 Feb. 1920

h. JESSE ADAMS, son of Fielding Nemrod Kinchen Adams and Martha Jane (Wilkes) Adams, was born on 27 August 1895. He is a veteran of World War I with service in the United States and overseas. He was in the Veteran's Hospital at Gulfport, Mississippi when last heard from, and his wife was living in Bogalusa, Louisiana. Jesse Adams married Clara Georgi of Germany and they had the following issue:

aa. Malcolm Fielding Adams
bb. George Homer Adams

aa. MALCOLM FIELDING ADAMS was born on 10 May 1923. He married Helen Elaine Haik. Their children are:

Deloris Anna Adams, born 29 April 1944
Caroline Marie Adams, born 5 Sept. 1949
Rita Helen Adams, born 28 Oct. 1950
Pamela Jean Adams, born 12 April 1957
Connie Lene Adams, born 29 April 1958
Lamanda Gail Adams, born 19 Dec. 1959

bb. GEORGE HOMER ADAMS was born on 5 June 1928. He married Margaret Prestige and they have the following children:

ABNER WILKES

249

Francis Adams, born 25 Jan. 1953
George Otto Adams, born 7 Feb. 1957

5. WILLIAM HENRY WILKES

WILLIAM HENRY WILKES, son of John B. and Oney Rebecca (Pritchard) Wilkes, was born near Homer, Louisiana, on 23 August 1853. After the death of his parents he lived with the H. L. Pritchard family in Marion County, Mississippi. He enlisted in the U. S. Army at New Orleans, Louisiana, on 16 December 1876 and had the following service: Honorably discharged as a private, Company B, 16th Regiment of Infantry on 15 December 1881; re-enlisted on 16 December 1881 at Fort Concho, Texas and was honorably discharged as sergeant, Company F, 16th Regiment of Infantry on 15 December 1886; re-enlisted 1 January 1887 at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, and was honorably discharged as a private, Company F, Second Regiment of Cavalry on 31 December 1891; re-enlisted 19 May 1892 at Fort Douglas, Utah and was honorably discharged as private, Company F, 16th Regiment of Infantry on 18 May 1897; re-enlisted 19 May 1897 at Fort Sherman, Idaho, and was honorably discharged as corporal, Company L, Seventh Regiment of Infantry on 9 June 1899; re-enlisted on 11 June 1899 at San Francisco, California and was honorably discharged as sergeant, Company L, Seventh Regiment of Infantry on 12 June 1902; re-enlisted on 20 June 1902 at San Francisco, California and was honorably discharged as sergeant, Company G, Third Regiment of Infantry on 9 May 1904; re-enlisted on 10 May 1904 at Columbus Barracks, Ohio and retired as first sergeant, Company G, Third Regiment of Infantry on 3 February 1905 at Fort Egbert, Alaska.

William Henry Wilkes was married, but no information has been obtained about his wife, other than her given name was Minnie.

William Henry Wilkes died 7 February 1911 and was buried in the San Antonio, Texas, National Cemetery, grave No. 928, section F. A monument to his memory was erected in the cemetery at Angie, Louisiana, by the Woodmen of the World.

Pascagoula Public Library
Genealogy & Local History Dept.
Wilkes Family

The Democrat-Star.

MAYERS & DEES,
PROPRIETORS.

Pascagoula, Miss.

FRIDAY.....JUNE 52, 1880.

Entered at the postoffice, Scranton,
Miss., as second-class mail matter.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION:

Per annum (in advance).....\$2.50
Six months " " 1.50
Clubs of six, per year, each..... 1.50

ADVERTISING RATES:

One square, first insertion.....\$1.50
Each subsequent insertion..... 75
Marriage and Obituary Notices, of over
ten lines, will be charged for as regular
advertisements.

A liberal deduction made to those who
advertise by the year.

All persons handling in advertisements
will be charged One Dollar and Fifty Cents for
the first and Seventy-five Cents for
each subsequent insertion of an inch of
square, unless a special agreement is made
previous to their publication.

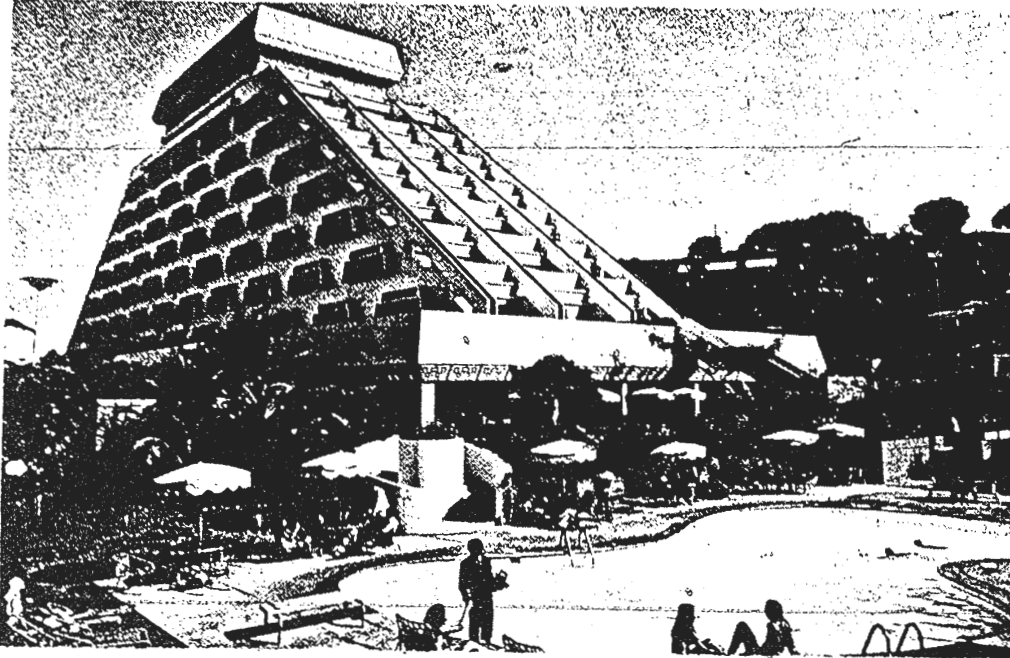
All advertisements not having the num-
ber insertions marked, will be published
till forbid, and charged accordingly.

Special Notice.

All letters relating to the business of the
old Haudaboro Democrat should be ad-
dressed to P. K. Mayers, Haudaboro, Miss.,
and all matters pertaining to the Pasa-
goula DEMOCRAT-STAR should be address-
ed to Mayers & Dees, Pascagoula, Miss.

Cons. Time-Table N. O. & M.

—Mr. Geo. W. Wilkes has been
commissioned United States census
enumerator for this beat, and is
now making his rounds among the
people. The law requires that all
questions asked by the enumerator
be answered, under a penalty of
\$100 fine for refusing to do so. As
it is very essential to a complete
enumeration that all questions be
answered, we hope no one will re-
fuse, but cheerfully give the enum-
erator all the information which
his oath requires him to obtain.



Plush Inter-Continental Hotel at Managua, Nicaragua
Where Kathie Breland of Pascagoula met President Somoza

Continued from Page 8-B

**Fleeing pair
wanted help,
got some tea**

said. "They must have something there other than a weather station.

"I offered to swap my radio for a gallon of milk. We ended up getting two cups of tea."

There were only a few cans of soup in the boat's store and help was several days away.

Wilks headed north, hoping to reach Mexico, but a storm pounded them for several days and he finally reached the southeast tip of Cuba.

"I guess I wanted to be captured," he said. "We needed help."

Wilks said he saw some Cubans standing on shore and dived into the water.

"I didn't realize how badly I was hurt until I hit the water. They must have crushed my ribs, I didn't think I would make it to shore."

"The Cubans gave us some fruit and fresh water. We gave them some old fishing tackle which was still on the boat."

Two days later, Mann Wilks and Kathie Breland reached Key West, Fla. They each ordered 10 hamburgers and four milk shakes.

"Kathie managed to eat one but I couldn't eat at all," Wilks said. "I lost 40 pounds in eight days in jail."

"I am going back," Wilks vowed. "I got a score to settle and I'm not the only one. I know a man who is 57 years old and he is going back in with the ground troops."

"There is no way to describe the whipping and abuse I took in that jail."

REI

SAVE

24 TO 2

25 TO 3

30 TO 4

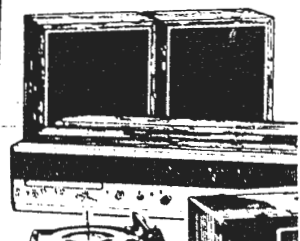
32 TO 5

37 TO 5

CB RADIOS

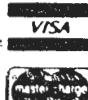
28 TO 7

SECURITY DE



ECKERD'S

**OPEN
SUNDAY
10 to 7
WEEKDAYS**



Pascagoula Public Library
Genealogy & Local History Dept.
Wilkes Family

1256

READERS' GUIDE TO PERIODICAL LITERATURE March 1978-February 1979

READERS' GUI

SOLVAY + Cie (firm) See Chemical industries—Belgium

SOLVENTS
See also
 Cleaning compositions
 Paint and varnish removers

SOLZHENITSYN, Aleksandr Isaevich
 Solzhenitsyn to Congress: address. 11 por Sat Eve Post 250:57+ D '78
 World split apart: address. June 8, 1978. Nat R 30:836-41+ J1 7 '78; Same. Vital Speeches 44: 678-84 S 4 '78; Excerpts. por Newsweek 91:43 Je 19 '78; por Time 111:33 Je 19 '78; Humanist 38:4 N '78

about

Capitalism's ethical imperative. T. R. Machan. por Humanist 38:14-17 J1 '78
 Estrangement of Solzhenitsyn. W. F. Buckley, Jr. Nat R 30:916 J1 21 '78
 Freedom and history: reflections on Solzhenitsyn and Skokie. D. A. White. por USA Today 107: 13-14 Ja '79
 Fury of Solzhenitsyn. por Esquire 89:73-4 My 23 '78
 Holy Russia rises in Vermont. F. Getlein. Commonweal 105:422-3 J1 7 '78
 In defense of Solzhenitsyn. J. Garvey. 11 Commonweal 105:553-5 S 1 '78
 Is Solzhenitsyn right? por Time 111:18+ Je 26 '78
 Knowing Solzhenitsyn. N. Pervushin. 11 por Sat Eve Post 250:56-7+ D '78
 Limits of dissidence. Progressive 42:7 Ag '78
 Mother Russia's prodigal son. H. Fairlie. New Repub 179:18-20 J1 29 '78
 Notes and comment. New Yorker 54:17 Ag 21 '78
 Permanent Gulag. G. F. Will. Newsweek 91:112 Je 12 '78
 Solzhenitsyn and secular humanism: a response. S. Hook. por Humanist 38:4-6 N '78
 Solzhenitsyn and some spiritual implications. H. E. Kuhn. Chr Today 23:55-6 N 17 '78
 Solzhenitsyn in Vermont. H. Kramer. 11 por N Y Times Bk R 83:2+ J1 2 '78
 Solzhenitsyn: more than barking dogs. C. Forbes. 11 Chr Today 22:8+ J1 21 '78
 Solzhenitsyn's Harvard sermon. J. M. Wall. Chr Cent 95:343 S 20 '78
 Solzhenitsyn's invisible audience. O. A. Carlisle. por Newsweek 92:13 J1 24 '78
 Solzhenitsyn's spirituality. J. Perlinski. Chr Cent 95:901-2 S 27 '78
 Thoughts on Solzhenitsyn. Nat R 30:881-2 J1 21 '78
 Two commencement addresses. G. Niemeyer. Nat R 30:1016+ Ag 18 '78
 Up from modernity. C. Kesler. Nat R 30:1145-7 S 15 '78
 What Solzhenitsyn doesn't understand. H. J. Morgenthau. 11 New Leader 61:12-13 J1 3 '78

SOLZHENITSYN, Natalya
 Natalia: from Russia with feeling. 11 por Chr Today 23:48 Ja 5 '79

SOMALIA
See also
 Visitors, Foreign—Somalia

Foreign relations

China
See China—Foreign relations—Somalia

Ethiopia
See Ethiopia—Foreign relations—Somalia

SOMALIS
 Irish of Africa. K. M. Cahill. por Newsweek 91: 18-17 Mr 6 '78

SOMATOSTATIN. See Hypothalamic hormones

SOMERO, George N. See Siebenaller, J. Jt auth

SOMERS, Al
 Teacher. M. Smilgis. 11 por People 9:38 F 27 '78

SOMERS, Suzanne
 Suzanne Somers is very happy. sort of. B. G. Harrison. 11 por McCall's 105:22+ Mr '78
 Three's company. por Teen 23:41-2 Ja '79

SOMIT, Albert
 Changing structures. Society 15:29-30 Mr '78

SOMMELIERS. See Stewards

SOMMER, Elyse
 Who's who & what's what in fibers. 11 por Great Crafts 6:14-15 Ag; 11-12 O; 12-13 D '78; 14-15 F '79

SOMMER, Susan Thiemann
 International Beethoven Congress. 11 Hi F1 28: MA28-30 Mr '78

SOMMER, Theo
 View from western Europe. 11 por Newsweek 91: 40 Ap 17 '78

SOMMERS, Charles E.
 Crop management. See Issues of Successful farming

SOMMERS, Peggy. See Wide, J. W. Jt auth

SOMMERS, Shula
 Diluting rage: Zinnemann's Julia. 11 Society 15: 80-4 Mr '78

SOMNAMBULISM
See also
 Hypnotism

SOMORJAI, G. A.
 Surface science. bibl 11 Science 201:489-97 Ar 11 '78

SOMOZA DEBAYLE, Anastasio
 Somoza: here I stand: excerpts. from interview. ed by M. Parker and R. Moreau. por Newsweek 92:69 O 23 '78

about

Battle ends, a war begins. 11 Time 112:36-7+ S 11 '78
 Desperate hours. M. Clugston. 11 por Macleans 91:26-8 S 25 '78
 End of a beginning battle. 11 Time 112:39-40 O 2 '78
 End of fear in Nicaragua. J. R. Brockman. America 139:84-6 Ag 12 '78
 Give Somoza a push. S. Kinzer. New Repub 179:11 S 30 '78
 He won't give up—unless the U.S. gives up on him. A. Ferrante. 11 por Macleans 91:43 O 27 '78
 Helpless giant? K. Labich and others. 11 Newsweek 92:68 O 2 '78
 Last tango in Managua. 11 Macleans 91:49 S 7 '78
 Mind of Somoza. M. Holland. Nation 227:460-2 N 4 '78
 Murder in Nicaragua. P. Lernoux. Nation 226:470 Ja 28 '78
 National mutiny in Nicaragua. A. Riding. 11 por N Y Times Mag p 12-15+ J1 30 '78
 Nicaragua: Cuba all over again? C. J. Migdal. 11 por U.S. News 85:37 S 11 '78
 Nicaragua under siege. K. Labich and S. McGuire. 11 por Newsweek 92:30-2 S 4 '78
 Nicaragua: universal revolt. S. Kinzer. 11 Atlantic 243:4+ F '79
 Nicaragua's Somoza: dictator at bay. D. Reed. Read Digest 114:140-4 Ja '79
 Our client in Nicaragua. Nation 226:259-60 Mr '78
 Rebellion in the empire. Progressive 42:9 N '78
 Reprieve for Nicaragua. R. S. Strother. Nat 30:134+ O 27 '78
 Revolution of the scarves. 11 por map Time 112:30-2 S 25 '78
 Ruling Nicaragua is a Somoza family business. 11 por People 9:34-6 Mr 27 '78
 Sanding Somoza and Carter. Nation 227:10 S 9 '78
 Somoza mops up. K. Labich and others. 11 Newsweek 92:65-6+ O 2 '78
 Somoza under the gun. R. Carroll and others. 11 por Newsweek 92:52+ N 27 '78
 Somoza's final days. New Repub 179:5 S 16 '78
 To die in Managua. R. Wilson. 11 por Roll 6: p34+ My 4 '78
 Triumph of the Sandinistas. 11 por Time 111: 3+ S 4 '78
 Where U.S. interests are caught in a cross. 11 por Bus W p44-5 F 27 '78

SON of Sam. See Berkowitz, D.

SON of Sam case. See Berkowitz, David, case

SONAR
See also
 Echolocation (physiology)

SONATA and sonatas
See also
 Phonograph records—Sonatas

SONFIST, Alan
 Art. L. Alloway. Nation 226:772-3 Je 24 '78
 Forest for the lower east side. Time Land 7: Vassar. Art News 77:38+ S '78
 Yes and no. New Yorker 54:32-4 My 1 '78

SONG writing. See Composition (music)

Competitions

See Music—Competitions

SONGS
See also
 Christmas carols
 Hymns
 Labor and laboring classes—Songs and
 Lullabies
 Music. Popular (songs, etc)
 Phonograph records—Songs
 Rock music (songs, etc)
 War songs

SONGS, German
 Following the lieder. M. A. Gurewitsch. Leader 61:23-4 O 23 '78

SONGS and race. See Ethnomusicology

SONGS of birds. See Birds—Song

SONGWRITERS' Hall of Fame. See Halls of Fame

SONIAT, Katherine
 Comparable season; poem. Nation 226:11 '78
 Departures; poem. New Repub 179:28 N 11 '78
 Holding pattern; poem. Nation 226:218 '78
 Still life with grass, fur and air at the top of Natural History; poem. Nation 226: 3 '78

SONIC boom
 Birth of the bo
 East coast boo
 181 Mr 25 '78
 East coast my:
 tale. D. Sha
 '78
 East coast my
 booms linger
 Ja 19 '79
 Nova Scotia:
 Posner. Mach
 Scientists expl
 shuffle a full
 Towers. Sci 1
 Source of east
 tery. F. C. E
 '78

SONKA, John J.
 Cross-country f
 Digest 44:55-7
 '78

SONNEMAN, Ev
 Two roads. J. I
 '78

SONOGRAPHER:
SONOMA, Calif.
 What do these
 pulmonary re:
 11 Ret Liv 18:
 '78

SONOMA Hotel.
 7 fornias

SONS and fathe
SONS and mothe

SONTAG, Susan
 Alone against i
 11 por Fam He
 illness as meta:
 16 Ja 26; 25:2
 Last intellectus
 O 12 '78
 Looking with
 '78

Blo. B. Rowes.
 Cancer ward. E.
 Knowing Sonta
 184-5 Je '78
 Susan Sontag:
 11 por Atlantic 2
 '78

ONTHEIMER, C
 Carl Sontheime
 Forbes 121:65-1
 '78

ONY Corporation:
 Blurred image.
 S 4 '78

How one Japa
 plant in San
 11 '78

In the money: A
 People 9:111-12
 Sony's U.S. ope
 W p31-2 Mr 13
 Will Betamax b
 19-20+ Je 20 '7
 '78

ODAK, H. and
 Homeokinetics:
 systems. bibl

OPAILLAS, Se
OPER, Susan
 Last picture sho
 of Fine Arts:
 political plum.
 44 S '78

PKIN, Charles.
RCERY. See W

REL, Edward
 Anything goes (:
 Issues of Esqu
 character assas
 but the work
 '78

RENSEN, Andr
RENSEN, Chris
 How to photogr
 83:102-5+ S '78

RGHUM
 fore females per
 Earth News 55
 '78

RIA, Dario
 an of quality:
 E. Jacobson. 11
 '78
 viewpoint. L. I
 Ag '78

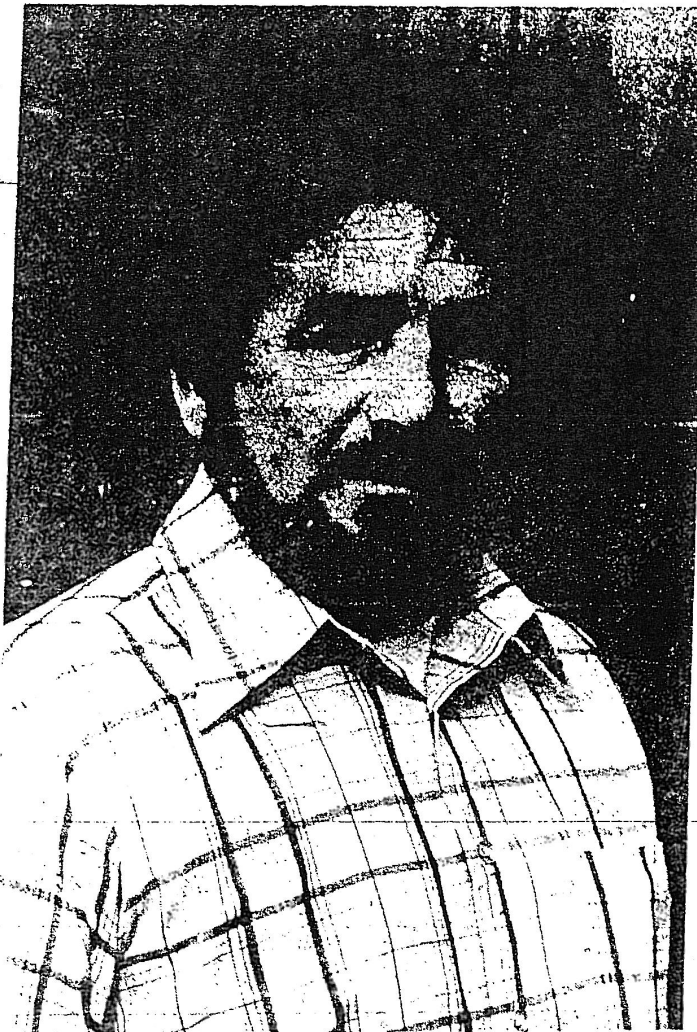
RIA, Dorle J.
 What life. See i
 cal America

ORITIES, Coll
REL tree. See

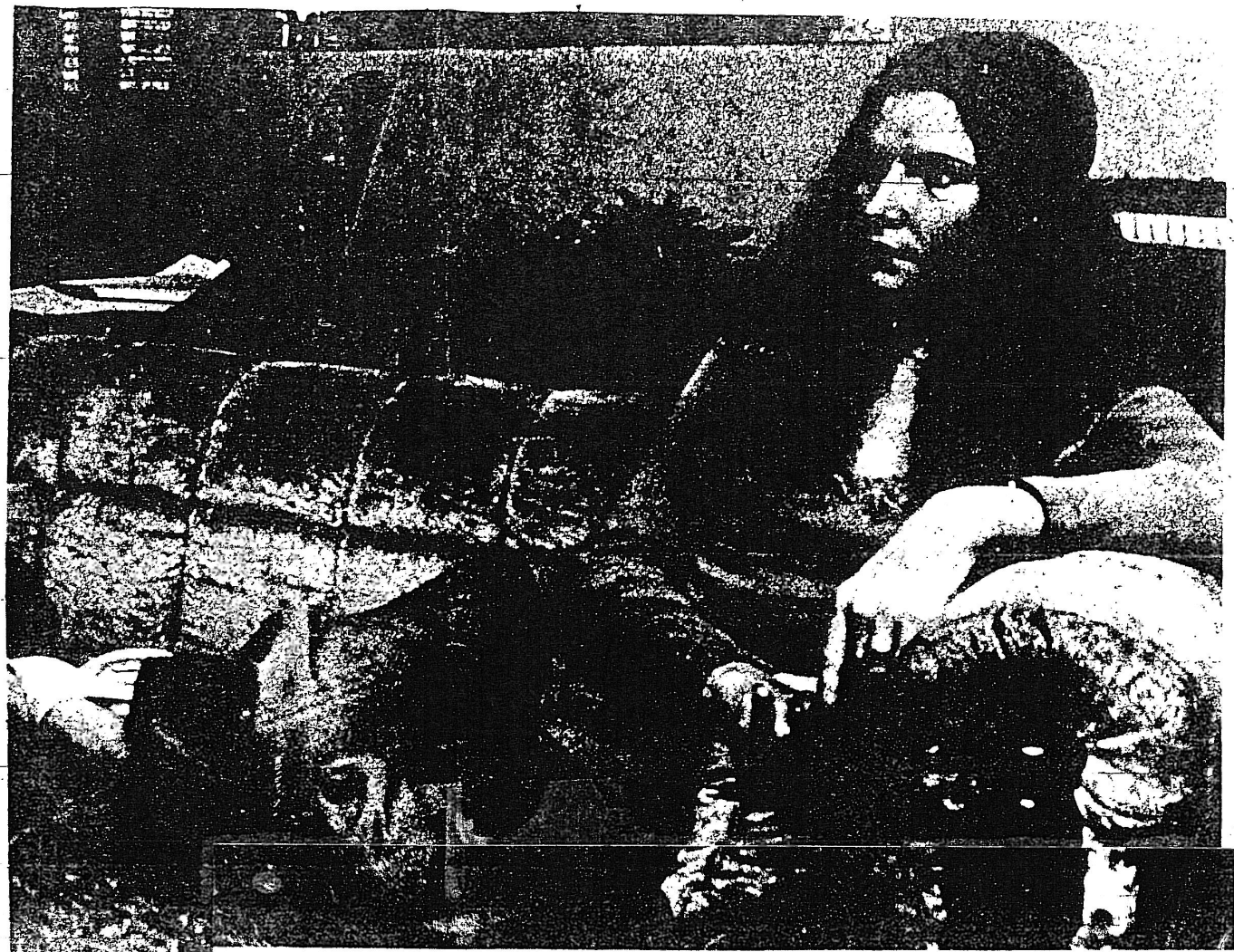
RENTINO, Jos
 High young pu
 by D. Pawl
 '78

ROW. See Grie

4-B—Mississippi Press Register—Sunday, January 7, 1979



Mann Wilks of Pascagoula
'I got the whipping I never got before'



Kathie Breland sits calmly in apartment here
'I just closed my eyes and hit him as hard as I could' (Staff Photos by Jerry Moulder)

Escape from Somoza

Pas man recalls daring rescue by 27-year-old widow

By DON BROADUS

Mann Wilks and Kathie Breland sat in her plush living room in Pascagoula talking calmly of the series of events more than two years ago which took them to the brink of death several times.

For a time, they lived like royalty as guests of President Anastasio Somoza of Nicaragua.

Suddenly their world was shattered and they found themselves battling for their very lives—even killing to keep from being killed.

"I've tried to forget about this for two years," Kathie said. "It makes me sick. You can't imagine a country doing something like that."

"It should be brought out," Wilks said. "I want someone to know the story in case I don't come back."

"But I am going to come back after I see them pay for

Somoza had provided Kathie a four-bedroom home on El Bluff, one of only four houses on the island with running water and air conditioning. There were maids, guards, anything she wanted, and visits from Somoza who flew to the island on his plane.

"We had it made," Wilks said. "Everything was going fine."

Somoza encouraged Kathie not to leave the country. He said he would buy out her backers and build two other boats for her.

By this time, Kathie had learned to operate a fishing boat and often took them out when no captain was available. She explained that it was operating a boat which led her to kill her first man.

Wilks was en route home when one of the company's fishing boats hit a reef during a storm.

"I told him I needed \$1,000 to get out of the country," she said. "I promised to stay with him a couple of days but I tricked him and took off."

After four days, Kathie used the money to buy a few hours of freedom for Wilks but he was again arrested and thrown into the hole.

Wilks said he could hear his parents and aunt talking toward the end of his stay in the hole.

"They were laughing and saying I had put myself in this fix," he said. "I guess I was sort of crazy. When Kathie got me out that last time, I told her I would just stay in jail. They're going to kill me anyway."

Through a friend in the fishing business, Kathie learned that the guards were planning to kill Wilks after allowing him to leave the island on his boat.

They were going to send three men with him who were

"When I got there, Kathie had the engine running and all except one line untied," he said. "We left immediately."

"After about 10 minutes we saw the PT boats coming after us. They were closing fast. The radar said they were a quarter of a mile behind but they seemed much closer in the moonlight. We could hear the bullets hitting the cabin."

Before the boats could close, they exhausted the fuel in their lines and broke off the chase.

"I put her on automatic pilot and ran for five hours," Wilks said. "Kathie then told me there was a guard in the hold. I opened the door and his feet were at the top of the ladder. His head looked like it had been bashed in. I knew he was dead."

Wilks said they threw the man overboard and he started swimming toward Corn Island.

**Pascagoula Public Library
Genealogy & Local History Dept.
Wilkes Family**

selves battling for their very lives—even killing—
from being killed.

"I've tried to forget about this for two years," Kathie said. "It makes me sick. You can't imagine a country doing something like that."

"It should be brought out," Wilks said. "I want someone to know the story in case I don't come back."

"But I am going to come back after I see them pay for what they did."

The conversation occurred several days ago before anti-Somoza forces launched their attack on the Central America dictator.

Wilks' mission was to recruit pilots and to instruct them in an aerial attack on Somoza's small air force and navy.

"My motive is simple," Wilks said in a low tone of voice. "I want revenge."

"I don't want you to write this story until the attack gets under way, then you can write all of it. The attack will come. The machinery is already in motion."

Wilks' Nicaraguan connection actually began about three years ago when he was flying commercially in Texas.

"I heard the best snapper fishing in the world was in Nicaragua," he said. "You could get rich if you could get a license to fish there."

Wilks, 39, a native of Pascagoula, returned home and soon obtained a group of lawyers and doctors, headed by attorney Roy Williams, to back him.

They applied for a license and went to Managua but couldn't get a license.

Wilks said he was discussing the problem with a friend when he met Kathie, who is a 27-year-old widow.

"Why not go to the top man?" she asked.

In two weeks, Kathie had the license.

"I took it as an adventure," she said. "I wanted to show up the men. I went down there and checked into a hotel and was able to meet General Somoza. He liked me and I got the license."

Did you trade sex for the license?

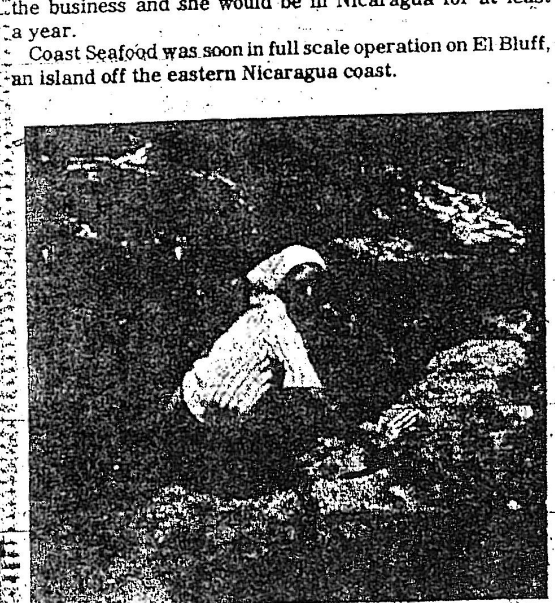
"Let's put it this way," she said. "I was Somoza's mistress. He liked me. He liked to take me places. Mostly he just wanted to show me off. To say I was his."

She described Somoza as a nice, well educated man in his late 50s. "He is very soft-spoken," she said.

The license was issued in the name of Coast Seafood.

Kathie told Somoza her half-brother (Wilks) would run the business and she would be in Nicaragua for at least a year.

Coast Seafood was soon in full scale operation on El Bluff, an island off the eastern Nicaragua coast.



**Kathie Breland on a bluff
On coast of Nicaragua**

for her.

By this time, Kathie had learned to operate a fishing boat and often took them out when no captain was available.

She explained that it was operating a boat which led her to kill her first man.

Wilks was en route home when one of the company's fishing boats hit a reef during a storm.

After failing to get help to rescue the crew, Kathie set out alone in another fishing boat to rescue the crew.

"When I got there," she said, "the crew of a Honduras pirate boat was stripping our boat. Our crew was so happy to get off, they didn't care."

"I told him not to untie (his boat from ours) but he kept doing it."

"I picked up a gun and just shot him in the head. I didn't mean to hit him. I guess I went crazy. Everyone was yelling and the wind was blowing so hard you couldn't hear anything."

Such incidents are little noted when you know Somoza.

Kathie said Somoza repaired the pirate boat and she gave each crewman "a little money." That was the end of the incident.

Things might still have been going well for Kathie and Wilks except Somoza's guards found out that they weren't brother and sister, but instead were quite intimate.

"I guess one of his guards saw us through the window," said Wilks.

An hour later, Wilks was sitting in the living room when guards burst in and grabbed him.

"They beat the hell out of me," Wilks said. "I don't even remember being thrown into jail."

Wilks described the jail as a 5-foot by 5-foot hole in the middle of a house. Prisoners were kept in rooms of the house but those considered really bad were thrown into the hole which was covered by a heavy wooden door. Wilks said the hole was about eight feet deep.

"When I came to, I thought I was buried," Wilks said. "I wondered why the dirt wasn't on top of me."

Meanwhile, Kathie was confined to the house.

"They wouldn't let me out," she said. "I would ask the maids a question and they wouldn't say a word."

"I kept trying to see the general. I keep saying this is a mistake. This isn't happening."

Finally, after three days and a bribe to the local commander of the island, she was allowed to see Wilks.

She brought him four crackers and a half bucket of sea water for toilet purposes. They wouldn't let her bring anything else.

"It was the first thing I had eaten in three days," Wilks said. "Then the food made me sick."

After five days and another bribe, Wilks was released from jail.

"It seemed like I had been there for a month," he said. "When you can't see light, you lose track of time."

Hoping to leave the country, Wilks and Kathie began loading their boat but guards arrested him a second time that night.

"They really gave me a working over this time," he said. "I got the whipping I never got before but I was weak from being in jail. . . he might just get another chance."

Wilks was in jail four days before Kathie was able to take him crackers.

"I told her to do what she could to get me out but she wouldn't say anything," Wilks said. "I thought she was going to leave me there."

Kathie said the guards had instructed her not to talk with Wilks.

Having exhausted all her funds and sold \$20,000 in boat equipment for \$2,000, Kathie decided on a desperate trip to visit one of Somoza's top aides.

She recalled a two-day journey on small boats and an old bus which took eight hours to go 100 miles.

Finally, she was able to see Alphonso Gonzales who, according to Wilks, "had his eye on Kathie."

got me out that last time, I told her I would just stay in jail. They're going to kill me anyway."

Through a friend in the fishing business, Kathie learned that the guards were planning to kill Wilks after allowing him to leave the island on his boat.

They were going to send three men with him who were to kill him and report he drowned. They were going to keep me on the island," she said.

Late that night, Kathie went to the jail where only one guard was on duty.

He spoke no English but quickly responded to Kathie's advances.

As he started to undress, Kathie hit him on the head with an eight-pound window weight.

"I just closed my eyes and hit him as hard as I could," she said. "I hoped he wouldn't still be standing there when I opened my eyes."

Kathie said Wilks wouldn't answer her when she first opened the door of the hole.

"I finally tore up a sheet and made a rope," she said. "He came out like a rabbit. He dragged me down the hill."

Kathie had already mapped out escape plans.

"She asked me how much time I needed to disable their boats," Wilks said. "She knew we had to disable their PT boats if we were to escape in our slower fishing boat."

Wilks waited in concealment as Kathie walked up to one of the two guards at the three PT boats.

"She walked into the bushes with one guard and returned a few minutes later, then left with the second guard."

Kathie declines to talk about what happened with the two guards. Wilks said they were later found with their pants down and a blade in their backs.

She did say, "I was desperate, I guess I would have done anything to get out. I'm really not a violent person."

This was easy to believe as she sat on her couch, her long legs curled under her and flashing a warm, friendly smile.

Wilks boarded the PT boats and quickly cut their fuel lines, but he made a mistake by cutting them too high — a mistake that would almost cost his and Kathie's lives.

After cutting the fuel lines, Wilks ran the three quarters of a mile separating the navy boats from his fishing vessel.

hold. I opened the door and his feet were at the top of the ladder. His head looked like it had been bashed in. I knew he was dead."

Wilks said they threw the man overboard and he started swimming toward Corn Island.

"I grabbed his gun, an old M-1, and fired at him a couple of times but I didn't hit him," Wilks said.

Wilks said they ran north for awhile then turned back to the mainland.

"It would be daylight soon and we had to hide the boat. I don't know how we made it because those waters are full of reefs," he said. "It's almost impossible to get through them but we did."

They put the boat in a bay and covered it the best they could with branches.

Wilks said as they were concealing the boat, another guard appeared on deck.

"He was rubbing his eyes and trying to figure out where he was," Wilks said.

Wilks said he was one of the three men assigned to kill him.

"He got drunk and came on board the night before," Wilks said. "He must have been drunk because he slept through the whole thing."

Wilks said he tied the man to a bunk.

"Kathie saved his life by slipping him water when I was asleep," he said. "I wouldn't give him any."

The government apparently assembled a fleet of small boats to locate the fleeing fishermen.

"My radar showed at least 50 small boats out there when we left that night," Wilks said.

Wilks said as he headed to sea he could hear rifle fire and the sound of his boat occasionally colliding with one of the smaller vessels.

"A man attempted to get on our boat but Kathie hit him with a gaff," Wilks said. "He fell into the water."

Wilks said he put in at Swan Island off the coast of Honduras in an effort to obtain food at an American weather station.

"They refused to let us come onto the island," Wilks

Continued on Page 9-B



**Snapper boat Jaskam, used in Nicaraguan escape
Dozens of bullets pierced vessel as pair fled**